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KENT ON SUNDAY

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F1 CHAMPION MAKES BLUEWATER PIT STOP

DID YOU REMEMBER TO PUT YOUR CLOCKS BACK LAST NIGHT?

POST STRIKE A BOOST FOR HIGH STREET RETAILERS

Customers ditch internet for the shops

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

A CHRISTMAS boost could be on the cards for Kent's shopping districts if more postal strikes are held in the weeks to come.

Town centre managers are keeping their fingers crossed that the ongoing dispute between the Communication Workers Union (CWU) and Royal Mail will put people off ordering goods online in the run-up to the festive period.

Severe disruption was caused to postal services due to the strikes on Thursday and Friday, with three more due to start this coming Thursday.

The knock-on effect could be an increase in footfall for Kent's shopping districts, which would be a welcome relief for businesses battling the recession.

Canterbury city centre co-ordinator Philippe Esclasse said: "After a very good summer we are desperately hoping we have a good Christmas and January sales period too, so we will take whatever unexpected help we can get.

"I think there are some deep problems at Royal Mail that could possibly continue for the next few weeks and that might put people off ordering goods online because they want to make sure they arrive in time.

"Perhaps it's true that every cloud has a silver lining, because every little helps given our current economic situation."

Chatham town centre manager Ron Morlham agreed the strikes could have a positive effect.

He said: "Anything that attracts footfall through the high street will always be welcomed by us.

"It's a sad state of affairs with the post, but some people will win and some will lose.

"We are experiencing strong footfall numbers in Chatham anyway, and hopefully that will increase over the next few weeks. I haven't noticed this week's strikes making

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO

Picture: IMAGES INTERNATIONAL LTD

Formula One's top driver Jenson Button flew back from claiming his crown in Brazil to Bluewater shopping centre and made his first UK public appearance as champion. The speed king drew a crowd of 2,000 fans, and even got back behind the wheel for them

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Term-time holidays to blame in truancy rise

TRUANCY rates are on the rise in Kent and Medway because headteachers are taking the issue more seriously, education chiefs claim.

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knightk@kosmedia.co.uk

For the first two terms of the last school year, nearly a million half-days were missed without permission throughout the county – with increases at primary and secondary schools.

Schools run by Kent County Council accounted for 816,570 of these unauthorised absences in 2008-09, while there were 88,850 in Medway.

There are no figures for state-funded secondary schools for 2007-08, but last year Kent's primary school truancy figures went up by 24,240 and its maintained secondary number rose by 29,448.

Chris Berry – acting head of attendance and behaviour at KCC – revealed the increases were due to headteachers refusing more requests from parents to take their children on holiday during term time.

The truancy rate then rises because parents still take the holidays, despite being refused permission by the school.

He said: "It's true that nationally and in Kent the figures have risen, but there are quite clear reasons for that.

"A few years ago we only recorded absences and didn't specify whether they were authorised or not, but now headteachers are being asked to be a lot more thoughtful about it.

"For example, apart from illness, the main cause of absence in schools is children being taken on holiday during term time.

"Parents have to ask permission, but now heads are being much more robust about saying 'No, we're not going to authorise that'.

"It's all about getting the message across that if children are at school, they will obviously do better in their studies.

"We're trying to encourage parents to think carefully about the reasons they are taking their children out of school."

Crucial

Children whose attendance rates drop below 80 per cent are classed as persistent absentees, and last year in Kent there were 12,800 such pupils.

Mr Berry said KCC agreed more than 700 'parenting contracts' in an attempt to rectify the problem and helped prosecute more than 600 mothers and fathers who were not sending their children to school.

While Medway's unauthorised absence rates are also on the rise, a council official said the authority's overall absence figures of 5.2 per cent for primary schools and 6.78 per cent for secondaries were below national averages.

She added: "The decision to authorise absence rests with the headteacher and schools are encouraged to challenge reasons given, if they feel it is justified. This allows the council to use legal powers to deal with poor attendance.

"Medway Council works closely with schools to address absences and the reasons why pupils are not attending school.

"It's crucial that children come to school so they can succeed in their studies, so reducing absence is a high priority and we use every means available to us.

"Unauthorised absences can have more of an effect than parents realise. Two weeks off in each school year for 12 years is equal to missing two full terms of education, which will have a negative impact on children's success at school and seriously affect their future."

National truancy figures show 1.03 per cent of school sessions were missed without permission – up from 0.97 per cent.

When Labour took power in 1997, the annual rate of unauthorised absence was 0.7 per cent. The number of persistent truants has fallen from 273,000 in 2007-08 to 241,000 last year.

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Now's the time for high street to claw business back from internet

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

much of a difference, but I'm sure I will if there are more in the run-up to Christmas."

Members of the CWU went on strike after they unable to resolve a long-running dispute with Royal Mail bosses over the company's plans for modernisation.

The union is arguing that even though it agreed in 2007 that jobs would need to be lost as part of the proposals, specific details about the actual nature of the modernisations were not known at that time.

It claims that when Royal Mail stopped talking to staff about the long-term effects on job security it had no choice but to strike in order to get discussions going again.

Maidstone town centre manager Bill Moss said that while he sympathised with the firms that rely heavily on the postal system, there was "nothing worse than a late Christmas present".

Decrease

He added: "I think there's already a feeling of reluctance to trust some of these big companies to get items delivered in time for Christmas, so I feel people will return to the high streets if the strikes go on.

"It will help a lot of places out too, because the latest national figures show a footfall decrease of about 4.9 per cent, although here in Maidstone we're just about on par, so we are doing okay.

"Having said all that, we run the town centre management as a small business and we rely on the post to bring money into us, so we could still suffer like many others."

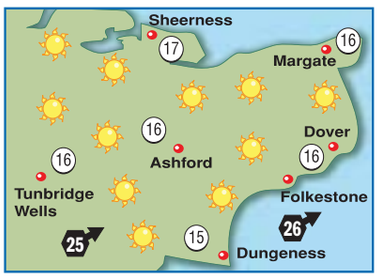
Mark Burchett – senior marketing manager at Royal Victoria Place shopping centre in Tunbridge Wells – said now was the time for the high street to claw business back from the internet.

He said: "I think this year people will revert back to the traditional method of shopping, where people know what they see is what they will be picking up.

"Even if DVDs cost a pound or so cheaper online, at least if people buy them in person they know there's no risk of not getting them in time for Christmas.

"It's not nice to see the strike action, but hopefully shop owners will take advantage and this year the high street will be a winner."

Kent today



TODAY: It will be dry with long spells of sunshine and just a little patchy cloud from time to time. Fresh westerly winds. Max temp 15-18C (59-64F).
TONIGHT: Remaining dry but breezy with clear spells and variable cloud. Brisk westerly winds. Min temp 8-11C (46-52F).

Around Britain

		°C	°F			°C	°F
Aberdeen	rain	14	57	London	sun	17	63
Belfast	fair	13	55	Liverpool	fair	15	59
Birmingham	fair	16	61	Manchester	showers	15	59
B'mouth	fair	17	63	Newcastle	rain	14	57
Bristol	sun	16	61	Norwich	sun	17	63
Cardiff	fair	16	61	Oxford	sun	17	63
Cork	fair	14	57	Southsea	sun	17	63
Edinburgh	rain	14	57	S'hampton	sun	16	61
Glasgow	showers	13	55	Southport	fair	15	59
Isle of Man	showers	14	57	Swansea	fair	16	61
Leeds	showers	13	55	Torquay	fair	16	61

Sun & moon

Sunrise	6.37am	Sunset	4.41pm	Lighting up times:
Moonrise	1.30pm	Moonset	10.07pm	4.41pm to 6.39am

High Tides

	today				tomorrow			
		ht (m)		ht (m)		ht (m)		ht (m)
Dover	02.55	5.7	15.24	5.3	03.53	5.4	16.41	5.0
Margate	03.44	4.2	16.27	4.0	04.36	4.0	17.30	3.8
St Mary's	08.46	4.5	21.13	4.2	09.54	4.3	22.39	4.0

Week ahead

monday Dry. Some sun. max 16C min 10C
tuesday Mostly dry. max 17C min 11C
wednesday A few showers. max 18C min 11C
thursday Dry and fine. max 16C min 10C
friday Sunny spells. max 16C min 10C
saturday Sunny spells. max 15C min 10C

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Kelly bares all for play to be Miss September

Pictures: JOHN SWANNELL

BARE FACED: Kelly Brook with Julie Goodyear

ACTRESS and model Kelly Brook has landed a leading role in a West End play. Her part in Calendar Girls is being rewritten for a younger woman after taking the role of Celia from ex-model Jerry Hall, 53.

Not that Kelly, from Rochester, will mind more stripping off. She's been a successful model for years and is a paparazzi favourite whenever she takes a beach holiday.

She's also no stranger to the stage. A year ago she was seen clad in just a bikini in Fat Pig. Now in Calendar Girls, the 29-year-old gets to use just a pair of iced buns to cover her modesty. Kelly is at work rehearsing her part inspired by the hit 2003 movie, which was based on the nude calendar produced by members of the Women's Institute in Rylstone, Yorkshire.

But the story has a darker side. The women produced the calendar in 1999 to raise funds for a hospital after leukaemia claimed the life of one of their husbands.

A theatre source said: "Kelly is doing well, but this is a big part to take on. Jerry did it superbly and Kelly is determined to make the part her own. It has been rewritten slightly to take into account of the age difference, but everyone is looking forward to how this works out. Kelly is very professional."

She will seen at Miss September by audiences from November 3 at London's Noel Coward Theatre in St Martin's Lane.

Kelly will be joined by former Coronation Street actress Julie Goodyear as Miss July, Cora; ex-newsreader Jan Leeming as Lady Cravenshire; and Arabella Weir as Miss October, Chris.

Drugs stats are up

DRUG offences in Kent have risen by 12.6 per cent in a year, according to Home Office statistics.

Police say the increase – which covers the period between April and June – is due to a countywide clampdown on drug use, possession and supply. This year there were 103 extra reported offences compared with the same period last year. However, overall crime was down more than 12 per cent.

Assistant Chief Constable Gary Beautridge said: "We are using policing combined with education to tackle drugs in the county."

GURKHA soldiers who have spent six months in Afghanistan return to Kent today. Members of the 1st and 2nd Battalions, Royal Gurkha Rifles, will be greeted by regimental pipes and drums at Shorncliffe Barracks, Folkestone, from about 11.45am.

The 100 Gurkhas were part of Foxtrot Company, which deployed in April. Cpl Kumar Pun, who was killed in an explosion a month later, was part of the group.

To see this search 'Wells' @ yourkenttv.co.uk

KOS Media launches two new titles this weekend: Tunbridge Wells on Saturday, and Tunbridge Wells on Sunday

Suicide worry of deportation threat girl, 10

By **CHRIS MURPHY**
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

A 10-YEAR-OLD girl who lives in fear of being deported to Nigeria where close relatives have been killed tried to hang herself with an electrical flex.

Adeoti Ogunsola told her mother: "I want to die here, not in Nigeria."

During a last-ditch effort to stop her deportation on Thursday night, lawyers won a reprieve at the High Court.

Lawyer Harriet Wistrich said the judge, Mr Justice Sales, had stopped the removal but that the Border Agency was determined to go ahead, in spite of evidence of risk of serious harm to the child.

Now the case is scheduled for a full review on Wednesday. Her mother, Clementina Ogunsola, said she was hoping for a happy outcome: "It's a small step, but now we have to wait even more."

Adeoti, who attends St Mary's Primary School in Gillingham, was being detained at the Tinsley House immigration removal centre near Gatwick airport with her mother.

It is the second time the youngster has been held. While her mother was in detention, officials forcibly removed the girl from relatives in Hempstead, near Gillingham, almost two weeks ago.

Just days later, she got up at night, went to the kitchen in Tinsley House, and tried to commit suicide.

Stressful

In an exclusive interview with Kent on Sunday, her mother said: "My baby tried to kill herself. She got up in the middle of the night and went to the kitchen alone.

"She got a cable from a kettle or radio and tied it around her neck. She was going to hang herself, but thankfully was seen before she got too far.

"This is the only home she has ever known, but this has been more stressful than any girl should have to endure.

"I'm worried she will be subjected to the horror that is female circumcision, which I don't want. It happened to me and I don't want it for Adeoti."

Mrs Ogunsola moved into a flat in Jeffrey Street, Gillingham, in February, 2004. It was raided within hours by police searching for the previous tenant.

She said: "Every time they came to the flat it upset Adeoti. She was becoming more and more withdrawn.

"She was doing well at school, but then the immigration authorities started coming round and said we had to leave the country.

"I fell pregnant that year, but the child was stillborn because of the stress I was under."

Mrs Ogunsola said she fled to the UK with her daughter because they were under threat at home.

Just this year, she discovered her two brothers and father were murdered, in 2004 and 2007, and her mother has fled the family home in fear for her life.

The 35-year-old said: "My husband was violent; he attacked and violated me. I had to escape with my daughter. It was a living hell.

"I do have relatives in the UK, but I have no contact for them. Adeoti has seen a psychotherapist who is worried she will continue trying to kill herself until this stress is removed.

"I have gone through all the right channels, but have been told we are not entitled to asylum and will be sent back."

The head of St Mary's Primary, Bernadette Long, said: "Adeoti was clearly traumatised. She was inconsolable about the thought of deportation in September, 2008, when she first heard of it. Since then Adeoti has had unsettled periods due to the worry and uncertainty. This has gone on for a year now and is mental cruelty."

Plane tickets were booked for the pair to be flown to Nigeria late on Thursday. But their London legal team at Birnberg Pierce won over the judge, who said they can remain at Tinsley House.

The Home Office will now consider its position before Wednesday to decide if it wants to continue its efforts to deport the pair.

David Wood, of the UK Border Agency, said: "When the independent courts find a family has no need for protection we expect them to return home. If they refuse to leave voluntarily we have no choice but to enforce their removal and this can include detaining children, but only as a very last resort."

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Judgement offers solution to hard-pressed grammars

A COMBINATION of the recession and out-of-county applications will heap pressure on grammar school places in Kent, according to experts.

The results of the Kent Test were revealed this week, ending an anxious wait for parents and pupils. But now the race to secure a Kent County Council grammar school berth begins in earnest, as 5,113 children with passes chase only 4,458 grammar places.

There are now growing calls to stop children who do not live in Kent from being allocated places at the county's grammars. This year, 993 pupils from outside the county sat and passed the exam, compared with 924 in 2008.

KCC has frequently said it would like to build a new grammar school in the west, though no government is likely to approve such a move.

Former headteacher Peter Read, an independent education adviser, said the pressure on west Kent grammar school places was increased by pupils from Sussex and London.

He said: "I'm starting to think that a solution would be to encourage selective schools in west Kent to recruit only from within Kent.

"Historically they have not been able to do that, but the schools adjudicator has decided the Greenwich Judgement no longer stands and a school, if it wishes, can choose a county boundary. That would be excellent."

The Greenwich Judgement makes it illegal for a council or school to allow any preference in admissions to a family living in their district. Mr Read said the adjudicator ruled on Monday that Dartford Grammar was allowed to give priority to Kent children after entry criteria was challenged by Bexley parents.

"If that were to happen in west Kent, the pressure on grammars would be massively eased," Mr Read said.

Simon Everson, headmaster of the Skinners' School, a boys' grammar in Tunbridge Wells, said: "We are three miles from East Sussex and base entry on academic ability. If we had a catchment area it would be less about that and more about parents' ability to buy a home in an area of inflated house prices."

Devastating loss of little baby Harvey

Family want answers after meningitis tragedy

A FAMILY is demanding to know how their two-week-old baby died from suspected meningitis, ***writes Chris Murphy***.

Little Harvey Davies was treated for colic by his GP in Swanley, say his family, but died days later when his condition deteriorated rapidly.

Harvey was born five weeks premature. His mum Shelley Humm, 21, is still too upset to talk about the tot's sudden death last Sunday, but her mother, Sharon Humm, 46, said they were devastated, as was Harvey's dad, Dan Davies, 22.

Mrs Humm said: "We felt neglected from the time of birth at Darent Valley Hospital in Dartford. Harvey was not feeding at all, yet on his record it said he had taken 40ml, which we say is a fabrication.

"He never took 40ml. I wanted them to stay in hospital another day. We got Harvey home and had to teach him how to suckle.

"He was very premature but we were left on our own. Days before Harvey died I saw him and didn't like the sickly yellow he had gone. He was also having trouble breathing.

"In the afternoon he didn't brighten up and I said to Shelley he should go the doctor. The doctor said to bring him back in three days if he wasn't better.

"The next morning, I rang to ask how he was and Shelley said 'no better'. We thought it best to take him to hospital. But 10 minutes later Dan phoned to say Harvey had gone stiff with his eyes staring into space, so an ambulance was called.

"On Sunday morning he was dead. So from Thursday, when he was healthy, it all ended so quickly and we feel something should have been spotted earlier."

The ambulance took him back to Darent Valley Hospital after the seizure and he was later moved to the intensive care baby unit at St Thomas' Hospital, London.

Mrs Humm said they were told it was possible he had contracted meningitis from the infected umbilical cord.

She said: "They turned the machine off at 11am and Harvey died at 11.15. He was 14 days old."

Dr James Thallon, West Kent Primary Care Trust's medical director, said: "We are extremely saddened to hear of the loss of a young child and our thoughts are with the family at this difficult time. It is important to establish the full facts before we can discuss what happened."

He said the trust will be investigating and it would be "inappropriate to comment further".

The Health Protection Agency said 14 babies died from meningitis in the UK last year, out of 303 who were infected.

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PROUD PARENTS: Shelley Humm and Dan Davies with baby Harvey, who died aged just 14 days

Movie taking heavy flak in isle warzone

THE leader of Thanet council has greeted with dismay news that Margate has been described as a "warzone" by the makers of a new movie set in the area.

Cllr Sandy Ezekiel, from Broadstairs, said he is upset the company behind The Singing Cowboy would highlight the bad parts of the seaside town for the film. It is being screened in the area for the first time today.

The black comedy was shot on location in Thanet and features a cast of local people.

It tells the story of singer Wesley Wheatsheaf, played by Steven Todd from Broadstairs.

He joins the US army in the hope of becoming the new Elvis Presley, but then finds himself in a deadly warzone. Scenes were shot in Ramsgate, Margate and Broadstairs and in rural locations across the isle.

The movie is the first feature film of Broadstairs-based IMS Productions.

Norman Thomas of IMS told KoS: "Thanet was great as the setting for the film. It's got so many interesting and atmospheric places. Bits of Margate look like they've been a warzone for years."

HARSH LIGHT: The Singing Cowboy gives an unflattering view of a seaside resort

But Cllr Ezekiel resonded: "That's a bit harsh. This is the sort of publicity we don't need. Bits of Margate do need attention, there's no doubt about that – particularly around the seafront and Cliftonville – and we're dealing with that. We have a plan.

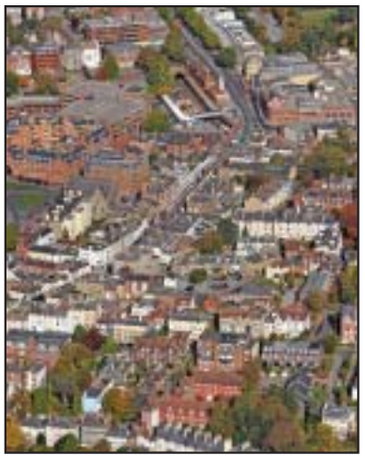
"He's a film-maker so this is what you might expect, rather than talk about what they can do to help."

The screening at Broadstairs' Palace Cinema will give the isle a preview of the film and a chance to suggest improvements.

The showing starts at 5pm at the Palace Cinema, Harbour Street, Broadstairs, with tickets costing £4 for members of Thanet Film Society and £5 for non-members.

JON COATES takes to the skies to enjoy some remarkable views of the county

Pictures: PHIL HOUGHTON



STUNNING VIEWS: Clockwise from top left: Knole House, Bewl Water, Tunbridge Wells, Penshurst Place and Hever Castle are among the stunning sights to be enjoyed from the air

I can see your house from here

FROM the air with a sea of green fields stretching out below you, it is easy to see why this county is known as the Garden of England.

Kent might have been given the affectionate nickname through its rich history of growing fruit and hops. But flying over the landmarks of west Kent in a helicopter, in between our towns and villages the patchwork of fields and the trees turning golden for autumn are striking.

It was encouraging to see how much open space has been preserved and this makes the occasional rows of polytunnels now used to lengthen the growing season stand out as alien to the landscape.

We took to the air in a twin-engine helicopter run by charter company AV8, based at Rochester Airport, for our bird's eye exploration.

After taking off in Rochester, we followed the M20 to Borough Green, then the A25 to Sevenoaks, where Knole House, the former country residence of Henry VII and now maintained by the National Trust, was stunning to see.

We continued on over Brasted and Westerham, before veering left to Bough Beech reservoir near Ide Hill and on to Hever Castle, the former family home of ill-fated Anne Boleyn. Our tour also took in Penshurst Place, Tunbridge Wells, Goudhurst, and Leeds Castle near Maidstone.

Spending an hour over the picturesque countryside is a truly memorable experience – providing as it does an entirely different view of the places we know so well. Despite travelling at 120mph at 1,500ft, it felt like we were hardly moving as we took in the historic landmarks, villages and towns.

It was incredible to see cars moving along at what seemed like a crawl and to be able to pick out the details of homes and businesses. By the time we arrived back, we had experienced our county like never before.

• Looking for a Christmas present for someone who has everything? A helicopter trip could be the answer.

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Pick up your new free weekend read in The Pantiles today

KOS Media launched two new free newspapers this weekend, enhancing its presence in the west of the county.

Following on from its multi-award-winning weekend titles Kent on Saturday and Kent on Sunday, this weekend it unveiled Tunbridge Wells on Saturday, and Tunbridge Wells on Sunday. Both will blend the best community and regional news, features and leisure for readers in and around the town.

To mark the launch, there will be an event in The Pantiles throughout today, where you can pick up copies of the new papers.

Both titles are free and include the popular Review supplement, business section and the best local sports coverage.

The newspapers are launched in association with So Tunbridge Wells magazine, whose offices the reporting team share.

Former Kent on Saturday editor Chris Britcher, who is overseeing the launch of both papers, said: "Our team has worked tirelessly to produce what we believe are two quality weekend newspapers for the people of Tunbridge Wells and west Kent.

"We intend to examine the big issues which impact on those who live and work in the town and deliver that news in a way which is clear, concise and informative."

In addition to picking up the papers in supermarkets, newsagents and garages, both can be read, in full, online at www.kentnews.co.uk, courtesy of our pioneering, page-turning e-edition technology. KOS Media also publishes the popular Yourlocal series of free midweek titles covering Ashford, Canterbury, Medway, Swale, Shepway, Dover, Maidstone, Thanet, Sandwich and Deal.

• Email our Tunbridge Wells reporting team with stories from across the west of the county at: westkent@kosmedia.co.uk; write to: Editor Chris Britcher, KOS Media, 3 Cumberland Walk, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN1 1UJ; or telephone 01892 616103.

Gatwick airport sale won't end threat of Boris Island

ANTI-airport campaigners have warned the sale of Gatwick does not make Kent any safer from the threat of Boris Island, ***writes Steve Knight***.

This week BAA announced that Global Infrastructure Partners (GIP) had agreed to buy Gatwick for £1.5 billion, sparking rumours the new owners will seek to increase business by opening a second runway.

Such a move would reduce the need for a third runway at Heathrow, which Mayor of London Boris Johnson opposes. He is instead pushing for a £40bn floating airport off Sheppey, which would be bankrolled by foreign investors and connected to the High Speed One rail service.

Medway Council leader Cllr Rodney Chambers told Kent on Sunday it was too early to say if the sale of Gatwick would have any effect on Mr Johnson's plans.

AIRPORT PLAN: Boris Johnson

He said: "Until the Mayor announces he intends to shelve his Thames Estuary airport, it is difficult to call this good news. We intend to campaign vigorously to stop his plan."

Earlier this week Mr Johnson published an in-depth feasibility study which found there were no "logistical constraints" against the six-runway proposal.

However, campaigners say such an airport would damage the environment and cover parts of the county with concrete.

To coincide with the release of the study, Medway Council has teamed up with Kent County Council and the RSPB to launch an online petition against the airport plans.

Kent on Sunday's sister papers Yourmedway and Yourswale have also joined the fight against Boris Island.

Despite Mr Johnson's insistence that such an airport plan is feasible, campaigners in Kent have a powerful ally in Transport Secretary Lord Adonis. Last week he described the proposal as "not in any way credible". He added: "The idea that you could have permission to start advancing this as a serious proposal next year is clearly for the birds."

Meanwhile, KCC leader Cllr Paul Carter has called for the Government to expand the use of existing airports such as Kent International at Manston.

Cllr Carter said: "We should be making better use of the assets available to us rather than building new runways."

Visit www.stopestuaryairport.co.uk to sign the protest petition.

Go with the flow

WORK to modernise a 70-year-old sluice on the River Medway began this week.

The Environment Agency started to install the first of three new gates at Allington sluice on Thursday, marking the start of a two-year project costing some £3 million.

Engineer Phil Munslow said: "The River Medway is a favourite for a wide variety of river-users, including boaters, canoeists and walkers.

"The new gates and lifting apparatus will provide reliable water levels, and the new fish pass will result in better angling."

MPs' expenses

IN A story in last week's KoS about MPs' expenses we made reference to "one famous case of a Tory MP who used taxpayers' money to buy a duck house for his lake".

We would like to make clear that while Sir Peter Viggers attempted to recoup £1,645 for a duck house, the claim was ruled as 'not allowable' by the Commons authorities.

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Judo star's stamp of 2012 approval

DARTFORD judo star Ashley McKenzie has launched a new set of Olympic stamps for the Royal Mail.

The 20-year-old has high hopes for gold in the under 60 kilo category at the 2012 Games, and is a part of the British elite training programme at Dartford Judo Club.

Judo is one of 10 sports featured on the Olympics and Paralympic Games stamps. Ashley said: "I am honoured to be launching this brand new set London 2012 Olympic Games stamps. I really like the judo design and it is good to see Royal Mail backing the sport."

Ashley McKenzie

And Scott McCarthy, the British Judo Association chief, added the stamps will help promote the sport.

He said the Games will put all sport in the spotlight, and the stamps "will quickly become a collector's item in the judo world."

The Royal Mail commissioned some of Britain's best artists to create three sets of stamps to be issued in the run up to the Games to highlight both the sporting and cultural significance of the event. The judo stamp was designed by Paul Slater.

Taxpayers get £6m Turner art gallery refund, but are we still out of pocket?

ILL-FATED: The first Turner Contemporary design that would have cost £50m to build

KENT County Council has won back £6 million spent on the ill-fated first attempt to build a massive art gallery at a seaside resort – but County Hall refuses to say if that covers the full cost to taxpayers.

By **CHRIS MURPHY**
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

In the build-up to Turner Contemporary, costs spiralled out of control and when told the gallery in the sea would cost a staggering £50m, KCC pulled the plug.

The authority also decided to ditch Norwegian architect Snøhetta rather than ask the firm to design a cheaper option.

KCC had already spent millions on the project – but County Hall would not confirm or deny if the out-of-court settlement covered all taxpayers' money spent, including an estimated £600,000 in legal fees – because of confidentially clauses in its settlement.

All the parties involved in the first Turner released a blanket statement.

It said: "Kent County Council, Snøhetta AS, Davis Langdon LLP and Ramboll UK Limited have been involved in a dispute and court proceedings in connection with the architectural design, engineering advice, cost advice, project management and intended construction of Turner Contemporary gallery at Margate.

"That project was abandoned in February, 2006. The parties are pleased to say they have reached a settlement of the dispute without any admissions as to liability and the court proceedings have been brought to an end by way of a payment to Kent County Council of £6m inclusive of interest and costs."

The legal battle started in May last year and has finally been resolved after the original Turner was first commissioned in 2001.

The aborted scheme has since been replaced with a design by award-winning architect David Chipperfield, and work is progressing on the prestigious gallery, now on dry land.

Chipperfield's £17.5m gallery started on site last November and is due for completion in 2011. Work is apparently going well on site and it is possible to walk through the building and get an idea of the sequence of rooms and character of the space.

The walls from ground to first floor are almost complete, and the installation of the steel roof is the next major phase to be started.

A source at KCC said: "We are unable to comment any further on the first design legal case as agreed between both parties.

"The settlement of the dispute is a commercial agreement that has to remain private between the parties and contains legally enforceable confidentiality clauses which we have to respect and strictly adhere to."

They said to comment further "would compromise KCC's position".

Thanet Council Labour group leader Cllr Clive Hart said: "I am surprised KCC won't tell you how much they've spent because you would need to know as a percentage how much they have recovered.

"It leaves in everyone's mind 'how much has this cost the ratepayer?'."

And Thanet South Labour MP Steve Ladyman added: "A cost-benefit analysis based on the latest figures would be good practice."

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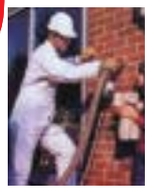

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The cinema is big business for our county, and reporter **CHRIS MURPHY** takes a

Closure's on the bill

KENT could become the only authority outside London able to shut off entire streets so they can be turned into film sets.

The county council is hoping to push a bill through Parliament that will lead to a host of stars coming to Kent.

KCC wants the Government to pass a law allowing County Hall to temporarily close roads for filming.

The authority has unanimously approved promotion of the bill, which will be handed to Parliament next month.

The Kent Film Office, run by KCC, has already generated £13 million for the county's economy, attracting projects including the BBC drama Emma and Is Anybody There? starring Michael Caine.

The new law would attract more film-makers to Kent, as it will streamline the permissions required for filming.

The Film Office said it will work closely with residents and businesses to ease any inconvenience.

Kevin Lynes, KCC cabinet member for regeneration and economic development said: "We need to do everything we can to nurture this industry. The canvas of Kent lends itself to everything from period pieces to gritty dramas and we want to see even more of our landscape on the big screen."

If the bill is passed, it is expected to become law in spring, 2011.

ON LOCATION: Michael Caine in Is Anybody There?, which features scenes shot in Kent, including this bus shelter in Prince's Parade, Hythe

THE MAGIC OF BEING CLOSE TO BIG CATS

W H F is a charity based in Kent working hard to ensure the survival of big cat species. We are an active partner in the European Endangered Species Breeding Programmes and raise awareness and funding for cat projects around the world.

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Our century

A CENTURY of cinema is being celebrated in Kent.

The event is being run as part of the Canterbury Festival and comprises one man's movie memorabilia collection that has taken decades to build up.

The University of Kent is staging the exhibition celebrating a century of cinema-going in Britain, called Continuous Performance: Going to the Cinema a Hundred Years Ago.

And it features a vast range of original material, including photographs, fan magazines, books, postcards, posters, and some early film cameras and projectors.

It covers a golden era of invention and advancing technologies from 1891 to 1920, so items can be compared to what is available 100 years later.

The exhibition will focus on the construction of the first purpose-built cinemas and the growth of a national cinema audience from 1909.

Such was the popularity and attraction in the early days, going to the cinema played a far greater role in public life than today, being comparable to how we watch television, say the organisers.

The size of early film audiences was impressive. By 1910 it was said that local

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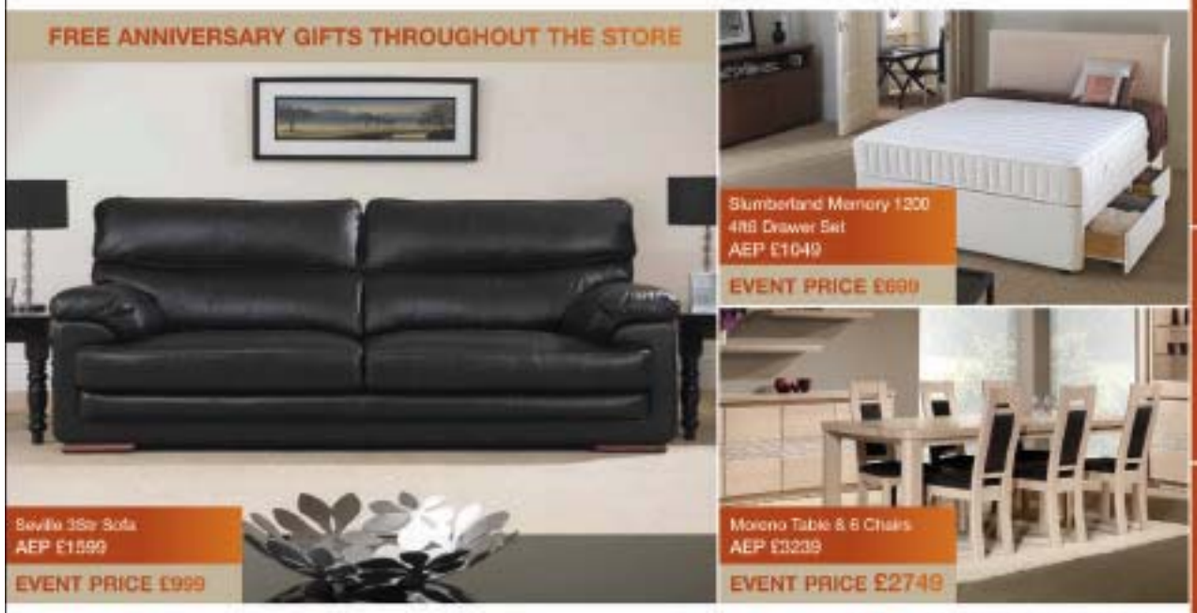

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look at the past, present and future of the industry as we celebrate its evolution

On his bike for gruelling documentary

A FILM-maker is due to set off on a major cycle ride across North America before taking on the southern hemisphere.

Next February, Leon McCarron, 22, will leave New York City and cycle the width of North America.

Then it's on to doing the length of New Zealand and the coast of Australia.

His trusty camera will be with him at all times and at the end of the gruelling journey he will return to his editing room to produce a documentary of the trip.

He said he'll spend time with the people on his route and encourage them to take part in interviews discussing topics they are passionate about. Leon said he'll also be filming his own journey on the bike as he faces temperatures as low as -20 degrees Celsius, and days on end in inhospitable locations detached from any habitation.

Leon studied film at the University of Kent in Canterbury, and has since been working at the city's Gulbenkian cinema while making films in his spare time.

He said: "Cycling is the transportation of the future – it's a low cost, low maintenance green method that really allows you to interact with the environment around you.

"I'm really looking forward to the adventure, and making the film should make it even more interesting as I'll have to carry all my film equipment with me on the bike."

Leon will also be raising money for Unicef during the trip, and is funding the expedition with money earned since leaving university.

He will be uploading footage of his journey on the way at www.leonmccarron.com.

On the website there are also details of how to sponsor him and his contact details.

He will also be updating his blog regularly to let everyone know when he plans on returning to Kent.

Leon McCarron

sat in the dark

LOVE: Courting couples were particularly keen on the darkened cinema

cinemas were often visited by the same people several times in a week.

By 1917 British cinemas were selling 21 million tickets a week – more than two visits per household per week across the whole country.

It seems people just couldn't get enough, and that was the spark for the creation of the multi-million dollar epics we see today.

Cinema attendance was seven times larger than it is today, and the cinema was the main entertainment of the British public.

Children were especially keen cinemagoers, and in 1917 some 50 per cent of Manchester schoolchildren visited the cinema at least once a week, with 90 per cent of teachers regularly at the moving pictures.

As the exhibition demonstrates, the new cinemas were also popular with courting couples, who took advantage of their darkness and privacy. In Liverpool going to the pictures was known as buying 'four pen'orth o' dark'. Continuous Performance features many jokes and drawings imagining what went on in the darkened auditorium.

As the raunchy 1919 hit song advised young men, Take Your Girlie to the Movies (If You Can't Make Love at Home).

The exhibits belong to film historian Dr Nicholas Hiley, who also runs the British Cartoon Archive, and has gradually built up his collections over several decades.

He said: "Film is being replaced by digital, so eventually we won't be able to use these old crank cameras.

"I still use them loaded with 35mm film, which is used in modern cameras. But as digital becomes more widespread, there will come a day when the cost of film will be prohibitively expensive and it will simply vanish. In the meantime we need to preserve these pieces of history so we can understand where modern films and technologies came from."

• ***Continuous Performance runs at the Templeman Library Gallery, University of Kent in Canterbury, until Friday, November 6.***

Be animated at the festival

CANTERBURY'S animation festival Anifest returns next month – and tickets are now on sale.

It's the festival's third year, and organisers have been able to double what's on offer.

The line up includes international feature film Sita Sings The Blues, with a special introduction by American director Nina Paley filmed especially for the festival.

There will also be the opportunity to take a look behind the scenes of some of Hollywood's blockbusters.

The festival sets out to prove animation isn't just for kids by delving into the darker corners of the archives to show how the technique has been used in times of social and political turmoil.

Anifest 2009 is at the Gulbenkian Cinema on the weekend of November 7-8, and tickets are available from the box office on 01227 769075.

See www.canterburyanifest.com for more information about what's on.

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Passing of a 'Secret Army' WWII hero

LIEUTENANT Colonel Norman Field has died at the age of 92.

The colonel played a notable part in training and leading the Kent-based Auxiliary Units – sometimes called 'Churchill's Secret Army' – in the first phase of World War Two.

He also escaped the Dunkirk beaches and managed to reach the safety of the Isle of Sheppey, despite constant air attacks by Nazi Stuka dive-bombers.

In 1940 amidst a very real risk of invasion, the British War Cabinet approved an inter-services assessment of the need to supplement the regular defences with guerrilla-type troops, and this led to the formation of the Auxiliary Units.

Carefully selected officers were given the task of recruiting promising local inhabitants in their allotted areas and forming them into patrols.

In the event of an invasion, these men were to leave their homes and move to pre-prepared operational bases underground – some of which still exist near Ashford.

Objectives

Their job was to remain hidden during the invasion and then come up behind the enemy lines and hinder the Germans with booby traps, blowing up ammunition dumps and launching assassination attempts on enemy officers

The men chosen for this task were volunteers used to handling guns and included poachers and gamekeepers – sometimes on the same patrol.

Lt Col Field himself had been wounded during the evacuation from Dunkirk, and had become frustrated by his inactivity while on sick leave. After applying for special duties he was posted to The Garth at Bilting just outside Ashford, where the operation was based.

He then took over command of Auxiliary Units in Kent from Peter Fleming, the brother of 007 creator, Ian.

SERVICE: Lt Col Norman Field (centre) in 1945, in Copenhagen, with Danish resistance fighters

After service in Italy his specialised knowledge of the capabilities of airborne troops led to a secondment to HQ First Allied Airborne Army in 1944.

He was awarded the American Bronze Star for his contribution to the planning for the invasion of Holland.

Appointed OBE and promoted to lieutenant colonel in 1945, he was attached to the staff of Lt Gen Matthew Ridgway for the Rhine crossing by the Allies. He was present at the liberation of Copenhagen and was on the point of flying to Burma when he suffered a serious stroke. He retired from the Army in 1948.

After settling just outside Ashford, Lt Col Field built up a mushroom farm over 14 years which supplied Covent Garden and many of the best restaurants.

Repairing machinery started him sculpting in steel, exhibiting at the City of London Guildhall Art Exhibition and on the Continent.

Norman Field, who died last month, had been married to Geraldine Gridley. She predeceased him, and he is survived by their son and daughter. He died in Canterbury's Chaucer Hospital after a short illness.

Lower your glass for the big debate

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

DRINKERS will be asked to open up about their daily intake as the NHS attempts to cut a rise in alcohol-related hospital admissions.

Last year in Kent there were 1,297 admissions per 100,000 of the population, compared to 1,088 two years earlier and 906 two years before that.

As part of its plan to reverse the trend and reduce the number of people contracting drink-related diseases, the NHS has launched the Big Drink Debate to ask residents of all ages and backgrounds for their views on alcohol consumption.

Only two such events will take place in the South East this autumn, one of which will be at Maidstone's Hazlitt Theatre, to allow people from across Kent to help shape future health priorities in the region.

Linda Prickett, public health specialist for NHS West Kent, told KOS Media it was important to find out why some people drink as much as they do. She said: "Here in Kent we are seeing a slowing-off in the rate of hospital admissions so our work in that area is having an effect, but it needs to be better. The scary thing about alcohol abuse is that many people think that if they're not falling down drunk, it's not doing them any harm.

Harm

"But really anyone who drinks more than four or five units a day is doing themselves serious long-term harm, and they won't see it coming.

"Drinking too much alcohol damages your liver, your heart and your brain and increases your chances of getting cancer.

"One in 24 people in the country are currently drinking at too high a level, and that's a lot of people who will be in serious trouble unless we do something about it."

This week was the first national Alcohol Awareness Week, which was marked in Kent by the Kent Drug and Alcohol Team – a partnership of organisations including Kent County Council, the NHS, Kent Police, Kent Probation and the National Treatment Agency.

TOTTING UP: Many of us drink more than the recommended maximum of four or five units of alcohol a day, putting us at risk of serious illness

Throughout the week, the Urban Blue activity bus visited Sheerness, Dartford, Dover, Ramsgate, Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells, stopping to offer shoppers non-alcoholic 'mocktails' and beer goggles to simulate drunkenness. Some were also given the chance to take car simulator tests which show what happens when people drink and drive after just a small amount of alcohol.

Mrs Prickett said: "We are trying to make people aware of the Big Drink Debate because we are drinking ourselves ill, and it's a national problem.

"We want to talk to people about what their attitudes are to alcohol, including how much they consume and what they think it's doing to them. We are going in with a blank piece of paper and would like to know what people think the best way to address these problems would be."

The Big Drink Debate is open to people of all ages, and Mrs Prickett was quick to point out that young binge drinkers were not entirely to blame for the rise in hospital admissions. She said: "Actually the under-18s seem to be a bit smarter than their elders, and that's a good thing.

"I think our healthy schools team is doing a really good job and helping to tackle these difficult issues in the classroom.

"They're not just preaching to the kids, they're discussing things with them and that really helps."

The Big Drink Debate comes to the Hazlitt Theatre in Maidstone between 7pm and 9pm on Tuesday, November 24. See www.bigdrinkdebateSE.org.uk for more information, or call 0207 403 2230.

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Poppies for 'Afghan generation'

By CHRIS MURPHY
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

WITH the ever-rising death toll of British servicemen in Afghanistan, this year's poppy appeal for fallen fighters is ever more poignant.

The appeal was launched on Thursday by the Royal British Legion with the slogan "For their sake, wear a poppy".

Since 2001, more than 220 members of the Armed Forces – including soldiers from Kent – have been killed in Afghanistan, and more than 300 troops have been wounded in Helmand Province alone.

In decades past, we bought poppies to remember those who fell in two world wars and other smaller conflicts.

But the tragedies suffered by the families of those men and women is now being shared in these new modern day battles.

Along with the dead, many more have been hurt in Iraq, many with brutal injuries.

During the launch ceremony, hosted by the chairman of Kent County Council John Davies, representatives from active serving units across the county, many of whom have served in Afghanistan and Iraq, were formally presented with the first poppies of the 2009 Appeal by schoolchildren from St Paul's and Benenden Primary Schools who individually handed each veteran a poppy.

Those who have fallen in Kent in recent years include Flt Sgt Gary Andrews, 48, from Tankerton, with 120 Squadron RAF; Sgt Dave Wilkinson, 33, from Ashford, with 19 Regiment Royal Artillery; Maj Alexis Roberts, 32, with 1st Battalion The Royal Gurkha Rifles; L/Cpl Jake Alderton, 22, from Bexley, with 36 Engineer Regiment; L/Cpl James Johnson, 31, from Chatham, with 5th Battalion The Royal Regiment of Scotland, and Capt Ben Babington-Browne, 27, from Maidstone, who was with 22 Engineer Regiment, Royal Engineers.

Royal British Legion county manager, Geoff Simpson, said: "The two weeks of Remembrancetide provide a time when we can honour the memory of those who have died. However, in remembering the dead, we must not forget the living, particularly those who have had their lives shattered by dreadful wounding, or the loss of a loved one.

"The funds raised through our annual poppy appeal help provide emotional and financial support for servicemen and their families, who are trying to rebuild their lives.

"The people of Kent generously donated just over £1 million during last year's poppy appeal. However, we see daily increases in the number of people turning to us for help.

"The support we have given this year has been extensive – from funding a laptop that allowed a young ex-soldier suffering from post traumatic stress disorder to order his shopping online and keep in contact with his family, to helping an estranged wife and her three children move out of a women's refuge and into a rented home of their own. For their sake, wear a poppy."

Because of the ever-growing number of casualties, the Legion said the focus of this year's appeal is to help what it called "the Afghan generation" of the Armed Forces and their families.

Since 2003, the Legion has financially assisted 10,000 Middle East veterans, and helped win £7.5m additional compensation paid to the most seriously injured heroes.

It has also provided £1.8m for combat stress to provide treatment for mental traumas, provided housing and employment, and even adventure breaks and family holidays to hundreds of veterans, all of whom saw action in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Driver trapped in death crash

A WOMAN has died following a car crash outside a village church.

The accident, which involved a silver Peugeot and a Mondeo, happened at about 9.30am on Thursday on the A26 Tonbridge Road at Wateringbury, near Maidstone.

The woman, 48, from Gravesend who died was trapped inside her car following the crash, which was attended by staff from all three emergency services.

Nine dogs taken

THIEVES made off with nine cocker spaniels after breaking into kennels on a village industrial estate.

Four black-and-white puppies and five adults were stolen during the raid in Iwade, near Sittingbourne, which took place between October 14-15. The estimated value of the dogs is about £4,000.

Sailor's rescue

A DUTCH sailor rescued after his boat suffered engine failure said he was sad to have called for help after 40 years of sailing.

The owner said he was pleased to see the Dover lifeboat come to the aid of his small angling craft, which had been drifting in the north-east shipping lane on passage to the Netherlands.

Deputy Second Coxswain Mark Finnis led the RNLI lifeboat out of Dover just after 1pm on Monday to the disabled vessel, which was 11 miles out of port.

The stricken seven-metre water-jet angling boat, together with its single occupant, was then towed to Dover Marina.

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Fat abuse is a hate crime, says victim

A WOMAN who was attacked on a train for being fat has called for the law to be changed to recognise size abuse as a hate crime, ***writes Jon Coates***.

Marsha Coupe, 53, had been on her way home to Westerham after visiting her husband in a London hospital, where he was being treated for cancer, when she was set upon by a woman, in her 30s or 40s, who smelled of alcohol.

She has now joined a fat civil rights movement, which was featured on BBC TV's Inside Out programme this week, and wants the law changed so size and weight abuse is prosecuted in the same way as racist or religious abuse.

The 22-stone businesswoman is originally from California in the USA and met her husband, Dr Richard Atkins, 56, an organic chemist from Kent, in New York when she was setting up a plus-size marketing company. They married at Niagara Falls in 2003, before moving to the UK to set up home in Westerham in May, 2005. Last year, Dr Atkins was diagnosed with a rare form of jaw cancer and was having chemotherapy at University College Hospital in London.

He was recovering at home when he had a bad reaction and was rushed to hospital by ambulance.

Mrs Coupe, who has a grown-up daughter in California, boarded a train at Charing Cross at 8pm to Hayes, near Bromley, where she had left her car to drive home.

She said: "I had a carriage almost to myself and settled down to read a newspaper. The train left the station and then I heard a loud voice saying, 'You fat pig'. As I looked up a pair of trainers came crashing down on my lap.

"She was screaming, 'Hey, fatty! Look at you. You shouldn't be on this train, you need two seats.' I couldn't believe it was a woman. I tried to defend myself, but it was difficult being trapped in a small compartment and then she clocked me with full force in the eye.

"I wear contact lenses so was worried about it shattering in my eye. Fortunately another passenger, a man further down the train, saw what was going on and came to my aid.

"I called 999 and she ran away and got off the train at Lewisham."

She was so bruised and battered that she took a cab home from Hayes instead of driving. The offender was never caught. She now wants more to be done to stop size abuse.

"If you scream at people about the colour of their skin or religion, that is a hate crime. And if they are assaulted, that is a hate crime," she said.

"But if they take offence at your body and attack you, it isn't. Hate crime against people due to size or weight has to be punished."

• ***Mrs Coupe's story appeared on Inside Out London in a show on the burgeoning fat civil rights movement, available to watch online at bbc.co.uk/insideout.***

BRUISED: Marsha Coupe after the attack

BBC director general Mark Thompson

Any questions for BBC's top man Mark Thompson?

ALWAYS wanted to ask the man in charge of the BBC a question? To quiz him on how the corporation spends your licence fee? To discuss standards?

Then here's your chance – thanks to this newspaper. We have arranged with the BBC's director general Mark Thompson for him to take YOUR questions on whatever you want to ask.

So whether it's about the high salaries of some of the national broadcaster's top personalities, investment in programming, behavior of presenters or its local coverage, this is your opportunity.

The popular local news flagship show, South East Today and BBC Radio Kent, are all broadcast from studios on Mount Pleasant Road, Tunbridge Wells.

Mr Thompson has agreed to answer questions from our readers and licence fee payers and promised full and frank answers.

All you have to do is send in your queries. We'll select the best and put them direct to the director general. We'll publish the responses in this newspaper next month.

This is a rare opportunity to talk directly to the man who heads the country's national broadcaster and get answers to the local and national questions and issues that affect you most.

A spokesman said: "This is a real opportunity for the BBC to engage with the people in Kent on how we are performing in delivering quality programmes, services and value for money to them."

To submit your questions simply email us at editorial@kosmedia.co.uk or write to KOS Media's headquarters at: BBC Q&A, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR. Questions should reach us by Thursday, October 29.

Marine film warns of fishing disaster

By STEVE KNIGHT
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

A CRITICALLY-acclaimed documentary about the devastating effect commercial fishing has on our oceans has made its way to Kent.

Based on the book of the same name, The End of the Line highlights how the popularity of seafood could lead to the extinction of certain species, as well as mass starvation throughout the world.

The film will be screened at Broadstairs' Palace Cinema on Tuesday, and author-turned-presenter Charles Clover told KOS Media he hoped it would have as big an impact in Kent as it has elsewhere in the UK.

He said: "I'm hugely taken with the fact most people seem to get out of it what drove me to examine the issue in the first place. They feel angry that we have mishandled the sea as much as we have, and they want to do something about it. It says to me that Rupert (director Rupert Murray) has done a very good job in translating my book.

"We think individuals have a more important role to play than previously thought, because it's up to us to ask in restaurants where the fish we are eating has come from. If we do then the restaurants will be more likely to get it from sustainable sources.

"People are told whether or not they are eating free-range eggs, but they rarely receive the same level of information about fish."

Among the topics covered is the imminent extinction of blue fin tuna – brought on by increasing western demand for sushi – and how declines in marine life are resulting in a huge overpopulation of jellyfish.

Mr Clover also confronts politicians and celebrity restaurateurs, who he says exhibit little regard for the damage they are doing.

DEADLY: Journalist Charles Clover, left, wants to draw our attention to over-fishing

He said: "For many years I was the Telegraph's environmental correspondent, and it appeared to me that the issue of the damage caused to the oceans was one the experts knew about but people weren't being told about.

"I was a fly-fisherman for salmon, trout and bass so I had an interest in the sea and what happens to the fish when they go off into it, but over the years I became a lot more concerned about how low the numbers were dropping."

Narrated by former Cheers star Ted Danson, the film was officially selected for the 2009 Sundance Film Festival and has won praise from such groups as Greenpeace, the WWF and the Marine Conservation Society.

The documentary warns that unless things change, there may be no fish at all come 2050.

Mr Clover said: "I'm surprised nobody has brought the issue up before because it's obviously very important.

"The general public can often get things into their heads that aren't necessarily true, and one thing is that pollution is the most important thing affecting global fish stocks.

"While that is a big problem, the biggest at the moment is over-fishing. It looks like people are just starting to take it more seriously now, which is certainly a good thing."

Visit www.endoftheline.com to book tickets for the Broadstairs screening.

• *See p28 for events to mark Kent's Coastal Week.*

Anglers' relief as restrictions watered down

RECREATIONAL sea-anglers have been thrown a lifeline over controversial plans to limit the amount of fish they can catch.

Under Article 47 of the proposed Common Fisheries Policy, people who catch fish for fun would have been forced to abide by the same strict quotas as commercial fishermen on the Continent, who use large nets to bring in their haul.

The move could have spelled disaster for the county's boat charter companies, tackle shops and other related businesses, but this week the plans were watered down by EU ministers in Brussels.

Ordinary fishermen with a rod and line are now being told the plans will not affect them as much as previously feared, and that sea anglers will only have to report a catch of a species that is covered by an EU stock recovery programme, such as cod.

South East Tory MEP Richard Ashworth, who lives in Folkestone, put the U-turn down to a Conservative campaign in the European Parliament.

He said: "We welcome the commitment to review this decision and I hope British authorities will not adopt the usual overzealous manner of enforcement they are notorious for."

Angling Trust chief executive Mark Lloyd said: "While thousands of tonnes of dead fish are dumped overboard, the seabed is ploughed up by beam trawlers and fish stocks dwindle, the Commission wants to study the impact of anglers fishing with rod and line."

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FRAMED: Dr Solomon's e-fit imagery produces remarkable results

New e-fit system putting criminals in the mind's eye

THE e-fit picture of a wanted criminal has come a long way since the days TV's Shaw Taylor and Police 5 – and now the technology is more accurate than ever thanks to the work of a researcher at the University of Kent, ***writes Chris Murphy***.

Dr Christopher Solomon was examining ways to get better pictures of the planets, but "then I had a massive eureka moment and I realised the technology I was working on could be adapted to making very accurate e-fit pictures".

Now the system is being used by 12 British police forces, including Kent, plus around half a dozen in Europe.

Dr Solomon, a reader in forensic imaging, said he hopes to now sell the technology to police forces around the world, and was recently in San Jose, California, giving a presentation to academics there.

He said: "It is surprising, but people are not able to give very accurate descriptions of people they know very well.

"So you can imagine how awful the pictures are reproduced of people you may have seen fleetingly in traumatic circumstances in the middle of a crime being committed. But we are able to remember faces well when they are presented in front of us.

"Using that ability, this system takes the general information we would all remember such as gender, rough age, and so on, and then present the viewer with nine close matches.

"The witness can then reject the ones that are way out. The computer produces nine close matches and again the worst are rejected. The image continues to evolve getting closer and closer to the real person. The result is some astonishingly close reproductions"

He said his team is still tweaking the program to improve results further and to make it easier to use.

Some forces have reported a doubling of good identifications using the system called EFIT-V.

Insp Sally Ghatauray, the force identification officer for Kent Police, said: "The images are much more realistic and can be adapted as fashions change.

"We are expecting much improved results when they are used in appeals."

Visionary who ran out of time before his 'saving' grace

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

WHEN William Willett died of influenza on March 4, 1915, he could not have known the impact his forward-thinking would have on the world.

Had it not been for this 58-year-old builder's tireless campaigning more than a century ago, nobody in the UK would have put their clocks back this weekend and our days would be all the shorter for it.

A resident of Petts Wood in Bromley, Mr Willett died before his proposal of daylight saving time was introduced, and was therefore unaware of how widespread its use would turn out to be.

Jonathan Betts, senior specialist in horology [the science of measuring time] at London's Royal Observatory, explained how the idea came about.

He said: "One day in 1907, it suddenly occurred to William Willett that during the summer most people slept through the first two to four hours of daylight.

"It just seemed a terrible waste to him.

"He knew it would be a problem trying to get people up an hour earlier every day, so the alternative was to kid them into doing so – in other words by putting the clocks forward.

"It was something he felt very strongly about and he canvassed national and international support for it, but unfortunately he did not live to see his ideas put into place."

Born in Farnham, Surrey, in 1856, Willett – who is the great-great-grandfather of Coldplay frontman Chris Martin – was a builder by trade and gained a reputation for his high-quality housing.

His idea for daylight saving came as he rode his horse through Petts Wood early one morning and noticed how many houses still had their blinds down despite the sunshine, and later in 1907, he bemoaned the fact in a pamphlet entitled The Waste of Daylight.

Within a year Willett had gained support for his idea from several Parliamentarians, including a young Winston Churchill, but despite the obvious positives of such a proposal it was not followed up.

However, the Germans were the first to implement daylight saving as a way of increasing productivity in the munitions trade, and the UK was quick to follow suit on May 17, 1916 – a little over a year after Willett had died.

Contribution

Mr Betts said that while daylight saving was not popular – nor necessary – in every country, it was likely to stay in the UK.

He said: "The system has been around for a long time now and there are no plans to abolish it.

"The question really is whether or not British Summer Time stays throughout the year.

"There are some people who feel the clocks should be kept forward all the time, although that would definitely not go down well in Scotland when it can get very dark in the morning when the children are walking to school."

Regardless of what happens in the future, William Willett's contribution to history will certainly not be forgotten in Kent.

He is commemorated in Petts Wood by a memorial sundial, which is set permanently to daylight saving time and Willett Way is named after him.

The Daylight Inn in Petts Wood is also named in his honour, while his former home in Bromley is marked with a blue plaque.

TIMELORD: A memorial to Willett, who came up with the idea of daylight saving, can be found in his hometown of Petts Wood

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The closing date is November 10, 2009.

Question: Which popular sport, played in 'whites' in the summer months, features a 'crease'?

a) Football b) Cricket c) Tennis

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If you do not wish to receive any literature please write 'no literature' on your entry.

Website launch is truly bonanza

EUROFERRIES has launched its website and online booking system so customers can buy tickets for the new high-speed service between Ramsgate and Boulogne.

Online tickets are available from £49 for a day trip including a car and up to five passengers. There will be four daily crossings between the two ports; the first will be on November 14.

Euroferries offers a crossing time of 75 minutes between Ramsgate and Boulogne.

The Bonanza Express is Euroferries first vessel, with a further high-speed vessel due to start operating between the two ports next year.

Stop the protests

THE Federation of Small Businesses is holding a conference to discuss its 'Stop the Blockades' campaign.

The event on November 6 at the Ashford International will be attended by haulage companies, MEPs, MPs, and council representatives.

The FSB says the French government is breaking its EU obligations by doing nothing to stop its fishermen who regularly blockade ports. The protests cause severe disruption for HGV drivers trying to cross the Channel, and lead to the implementation of Operation Stack, where lorries are parked on the M20.

The FSB has asked the European Commission to take action against the French Government to prevent such blockades in the future and to secure compensation for haulage firms affected by the action.

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Anti-social behaviour in the spotlight

A THREE-week crackdown on crime and anti-social behaviour was launched by Kent Police this week, ***writes Jane Barlow***.

It will runs until November 8 and will give the message that illegal and nuisance behaviour will not be tolerated, while at the same time reassuring people the police and many other organisations are working together to make their communities safer.

During the three weeks Kent Police will be working with local councils, Kent Fire and Rescue Service, Neighbourhood Watch, Clean Kent, the Probation Service, the Kent and Medway Camera Safety Partnership, Kent County Council and the Medway Unitary Authority.

The campaign will focus on three themes:

- Crime and disorder – this will include action to reduce incidents of anti-social behaviour associated with Halloween and fireworks and protect the most vulnerable members of our communities
- Anti-social use of vehicles – this will include specialist patrols targeting those motorists who put lives at risk, by speeding, using mobile phones while driving, not wearing seatbelts, or by driving uninsured, un-roadworthy, untaxed vehicles. Patrols will also target nuisance off-road motorcycling
- Environmental anti-social behaviour – activities will aim to improve the environment through the removal of graffiti, rubbish and abandoned and untaxed vehicles and the identification of individuals or companies responsible for fly-tipping.

Inspector Phil Hibben, who is co-ordinating police efforts across the county, said: "Anti-social behaviour and crime can have a significant impact on people's quality of life and how safe they feel in their homes.

"During these three weeks the police will be working closely with local councils and other agencies to tackle the issues that matter most to local people and bring offenders to justice.

"The darker evenings and a seasonal rise in casualties on the roads will mean we will also be targeting drivers who pose the greatest risk to other road users.

"Specialist officers will be identifying and prosecuting drivers who drive in an anti-social manner and will be removing un-roadworthy and uninsured vehicles."

Part of the campaign, called Operation Velo, will see police officers going out on their bikes rather than in patrol cars to speak with members of the public and in particular young people. When Operation Velo ran at the end of August it resulted in 900 engagements with youngsters who were given road safety and other advice.

CO-ORDINATOR: Inspector Phil Hibben

The campaign will also include Operation Cubit, which is co-ordinated by KCC and removes untaxed and abandoned vehicles from the roads. The campaign also takes in Not In My Neighbourhood Week which runs nationally from November 2-6.

During the three weeks, action is planned across the county includes:

- In Maidstone PCSOs will be visiting shops selling fireworks to remind retailers about the law and asking shopkeepers not to sell eggs and flour to youngsters, which could be used for trick or treat.
- Dover officers will be tackling inconsiderate parking outside schools.
- In Gravesend and Dartford meetings will be held with retailers, at which Trading Standards and Kent Police will give advice.
- Ashford Kent Police officers will be going into secondary schools to speak about the dangers of playing with fireworks and about road safety. PCSOs will be recording number plates of drivers not wearing seatbelts or using mobile phones at the wheel.

Officers from Ashford are expecting to be particularly busy on October 31 as the village of Pluckley is reportedly the country's most haunted place and there could be an influx of visitors.

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A SAFER KENT — POLICE AND THE COMMUNITY WORKING TOGETHER

Chief Constable Michael Fuller answers readers' questions as part of our A Safer Kent Campaign. See all of your questions and answers at www.kentnews.co.uk

QUESTION: What do you think about the zero tolerance policy adopted in New York?
Patricia Burton, Folkestone

ANSWER: The concept of zero tolerance policing was made famous in the mid-90s by New York mayor Rudy Giuliani and works on the assumption that by quickly and firmly addressing minor problems within a locality, a strong message is sent out that more serious crime will not be tolerated.

However, this approach has attracted criticism for removing officer discretion and unnecessarily criminalising large numbers of local people, and there is still much debate amongst criminologists as to its effectiveness at actually reducing levels of crime.

Kent Police are committed to dealing with low-level crime and anti-social behaviour, and we target this through our local neighbourhood policing teams and the recently introduced neighbourhood task teams.

I strongly believe we need to achieve this in partnership with local communities and that my officers need to retain the ability to exercise discretion and use their own common sense – something the public would quite rightly expect.

QUESTION: Can you explain why for many years your officers have allowed hundreds of speeding motorcyclists to use the roads in and out of Tenterden every summer weekend as a virtual TT course?

Not only are they a menace to themselves, but to pedestrians and all other road users as well. I have complained to the previous holder of your position, but nothing was ever done and I certainly have never seen a speed trap on our local roads.

Steps should, in my view, be taken now to prepare a rude awakening for these lawless idiots in time for next summer.
Peter Lake, Tenterden

ANSWER: Kent Police take the issue of speeding motorcyclists very seriously.

In the Ashford district, which includes Tenterden, this important issue is treated as a priority in a number of wards following feedback from the PACT (Partners and Communities Together) processes in both rural and urban areas.

The subject of speeding motorcyclists forms part of our daily business and is incorporated into our 'You said, we did' information campaigns.

Since the beginning of last month 26 rural road checks have been completed in the Tenterden area, resulting in 46 drivers being dealt with for a variety of offences.

In addition, a specialist motorbike team patrols areas where problems are identified and provides advice to riders.

Their role specifically focuses on reducing the number of people killed and seriously injured on our roads, but also addresses anti-social behaviour by riders.

QUESTION: We are continually being told the crime rate is falling, but is that because the public feel reporting offences is pointless as the police appear disinterested?
Patricia Burton, Folkestone

ANSWER: Kent Police sets priorities to tackle anti-social behaviour and crime. We achieve this by ensuring our emergency response patrols react to calls for assistance that need immediate attendance.

Kent Police's Initial Crime Investigation Unit deals with all reports of crime that do not require the immediate attendance of a patrol. The unit consists of 60 investigators providing a round-the-clock service. The staff have specialised training to enable them to provide a quality investigation at the first point of contact with the caller, ensuring each caller receives the best possible service.

At local level we have seen a marked increase in the number of crimes attended by police.

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McCarthy & Stone, Britain's leading retirement builder has brought a new concept in retirement living to Kent. With three Assisted Living developments in the region, Darwin Court in Margate, Laurel Court in Cheriton and Nelson Court in Gravesend, the company now offers a real alternative for older homebuyers looking for additional help and support by providing a genuine bridge between a conventional retirement property and a more formal care alternative.

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RETAINING INDEPENDENCE

Typical Residents' Lounge

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The developments have been designed to ensure that residents can do everything they did in their former homes, but far more easily. Struggling with stairs is a thing of the past as there are two lifts in the building. Inside the apartments there are thoughtful touches throughout; from the non-slip flooring in the bathroom, waist height sockets and appliances to avoid bending, and easy open electric windows in the kitchen. What's more the external maintenance, gardening, and window cleaning is also taken care of ensuring residents are free to relax and enjoy their well earned retirement.

MUCH MORE THAN AN APARTMENT

Assisted living incorporates all of the features of retirement living and more. Staff are on-site 24 hours a day.

As part of the annual service charge purchasers are entitled to one hour of domestic assistance per week, with extra assistance available if required in the event of ill health which means someone else can do the chores that buyers no longer feel able or willing to do. Personal care plans are also available by arrangement.

One key benefit of Assisted Living is the waitress-service restaurant which serves a three course meal every day, 365 days a year at a reasonable cost, and as well as the residents' lounge, owners can enjoy the function room complete with computer for everyone to use.

There is often a concern that moving house may mean missing out on having friends and family to stay, but McCarthy & Stone have also considered this in their design. All Developments have guest suites, complete with en-suite facilities which offer additional space for visiting guests.

For further details or to experience Assisted Living for yourself please contact Darwin Court, Laurel Court or Nelson Court on the numbers below.

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Patients told to wait on GP's call for swine flu jab

By **CHRIS MURPHY**

DOCTORS are telling patients worried about swine flu "don't call us, we'll call you".

The first round of swine flu vaccinations started on Wednesday, with those in the health care frontline getting the first jabs.

The three primary care trusts (PCTs) across Kent said their staff, and hospital patients identified as most at risk of the infection, are the priority at this stage.

And over the coming week general practitioners will see deliveries start arriving for their patients most in need.

This will include pregnant women, and patients will be contacted by practices and invited in for vaccination.

Only people who are registered with a GP and identified as in the 'at risk' group will be offered immunisation, so that protection is given to those who most need it.

But health chiefs say doctors are being inundated with phone calls and visits from worried patients asking if they need the jab now.

A spokesman for all three PCTs in Kent said: "Our advice to everyone at this stage is don't phone the doctor for the jab – they will be in touch with you.

Logistics

"Of course, if there is a genuine medical problem then by all means get in touch. But if people are thinking about the vaccines they should wait for their GP to contact them.

"Currently, too much time is being taken up with calls from patients thinking they need to make appointments for the injection.

"This is not the case – the doctors know from their patient list who needs the jabs."

Dr Caroline Jessel, a GP in Maidstone and deputy medical director for NHS West Kent, said: "The deliveries to GPs will begin next week, but the logistics of delivering across the country mean that it will take a few weeks for all GP practices to receive the vaccine. Practices will not contact all patients immediately, as the vaccine will be offered to patients in order of clinical priority."

It's predicted that with the start of colder weather the number of cases of swine flu could rise dramatically.

NHS West Kent PCT's director of health improvement, Jackie Spiby, believes many lives could be saved. She said: "Although west Kent has seen an increase in the past week, progress of the second wave of pandemic flu is proving to be slower than predicted.

"We may have got a lucky break with the way the virus has behaved, giving us the opportunity to get the vaccinations underway."

And NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent PCT's deputy director of public health Andrew Scott-Clark added: "People should prepare themselves by stocking up on over-the-counter remedies and by identifying a flu friend – someone who does not have swine flu – who can pick up their antivirals and any other supplies for them should they become ill."

Medway PCT's director of public health, Dr Alison Barnett, said: "We will be vaccinating priority frontline health workers and those in at-risk groups in this stage, as the vaccine is the best protection against swine flu.

"But regardless of whether you are eligible for the vaccine, we cannot encourage everyone enough across Kent to practice good hygiene and stay warm this winter."

The best way people can continue to protect themselves is by following good hygiene – catch coughs or sneezes in a tissue and bin tissues as soon as possible.

Simply remember: catch it, bin it, kill it.

Anyone suspecting they have caught swine flu should get in touch with the National Pandemic Flu Service.

But they should go to their GP if they have a serious underlying illness, are pregnant, have a sick child under 12 months, realise their condition is suddenly getting much worse or think their condition is still getting worse after seven days, or five in the case of a child.

Antiviral

The flu-like illness GP consultation rates by PCT in west Kent has increased to 46.3 per 100,000 population, for the week ending October 11, from 34.9 per 100,000 population the previous week.

Eastern and Coastal Kent has shown a small decrease this week with 21.1 per 100,000 population by PCT area compared to 28.3 per 100,000 the previous week.

And Medway has remained the same this week as compared to the previous week with 16 per 100,000 population

As of October 14, 626 people have been admitted to hospital in connection with swine flu across the South East coast region.

There are currently 143 antiviral collection points across Kent and Medway.

For advice, contact the National Pandemic Flu Service at www.direct.gov.uk/pandemicflu or phone 0800 1 513 100.

Quarantine rule is barking

A VITAL fire service rescue dog has been taken off frontline duties after being forced to go into quarantine following a mercy mission to Indonesia.

Meg, a springer spaniel, has to spend six months 'behind bars' to ensure she has not picked up any diseases.

Along with firefighters from forces from all over the UK, including another dog from Essex, Meg's job north of Padang was to track earthquake survivors.

Meg and the Kent Fire and Rescue Service (KFRS) officers assisted the work being done by the UK International Search and Rescue squad.

Two MPs in Essex are angry that county's dog has been locked away from duty, but KFRS said they are happy to obey the rules.

One of the MPs, Bob Russell, has tabled a Commons motion calling for rescue dogs to be exempt from "antiquated" quarantine laws. Defra has also been asked to look again at the quarantine regulations.

A KFRS spokesman said: "We know what the rules are – we don't have any options. Essex has taken a different approach, but we are going along with the rules which are there for a reason. Those are the rules so that's what we are adhering to."

SAVIOUR: Fire dog Meg

IN the run up to Bonfire Night, Kent Fire and Rescue Service is urging the public to stay safe and not let accidents ruin their fun.

Last November there a dramatic reduction in firework and bonfire related fires and injuries.

Firework incidents were down from 27 in 2007, to four in 2008, and bonfire incidents went from 44 in to 20.

KFRS head of community safety, Stuart Skilton said: "This is a huge improvement and definitely a trend we want to see continue, but we are urging people not to be complacent.

"People should bear in mind that a simple sparkler can burn up to a temperature of 2,000 degrees centigrade, so they should never be given to children under the age of five. If you are having your own celebration use common sense to avoid injury or damage to your property."

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Do you want to find out more about your local provider of NHS Community Services?

A Board Meeting held in public will take place on:
Monday 2 November 2009 starting at 9.30am
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- Find out about future plans for NHS Community Services
- A chance to question senior staff
- Interactive display and information
- A signer will be available on the day
- Copies of the Agenda and papers will be available from Sheppey Community Hospital one week before the Board Meeting. They will also be available on our website, please visit **www.eckcommunityservices.nhs.uk**

For questions relating to the agenda please contact:
Pauline Gardiner
Corporate Services Manager
Tel: 01227 795037
Email: pauline.gardiner@eastcoastkent.nhs.uk

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NEW GENERATION PORTRAITS

Choirs make perfect pitch for top spot

By **CHRIS MURPHY**
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

INSPIRED by the BBC's Last Choir Standing TV show, the Rotary Club is tuning up to find the best choir in Kent.

It is open to amateur choirs of all ages and styles – the only rule is that they need to be based in the county.

Teams of singers are now being urged to get their vocal chords in to tip-top condition before the closing date next January, with the final in March.

A trophy goes to the winning choir, plus the chance to sing live at the Canterbury Festival in October next year.

The final will take place on March 27 at the Shirley Hall in Canterbury, when a minimum of eight shortlisted choirs will battle it out before an internationally acclaimed panel of judges, headed by Dr David Flood, organist and Master of Choristers at Canterbury Cathedral.

Dr Flood will be joined by the internationally renowned conductor Nicholas Cleobury, University of Kent director of music Susan Wanless, and Kent area organiser of Sing Up UK Nancy Gillio-Terry.

Richard Kemball-Cook, president of the Rotary Club of Canterbury said: "This is an exciting project for us to develop and launch.

"We have been working on it for over a year and are confident of county-wide interest to help us find the Top Choir Kent 2010."

He added: "The attraction of being able to perform in next year's Canterbury International Festival will be of interest to choirs the length and breadth of Kent."

TUNEFUL TRIO: Dr David Flood is at piano with, left, the Rotary's Richard Kemball-Cook and, right, organiser John Harris

Rosie Turner, director of the Canterbury Festival said: "There are many excellent amateur choirs across Kent of all styles and ages. This competition gives them the chance to perform on the same stage to compete for a place in the 2010 Canterbury Festival."

Radio Kent will broadcast some of the entries throughout the winter on the Sunday Programme with Martin Buchanan, and will also record the final sing off for transmission.

The organisers said choirs should get their entries in well before the deadline to stand a better chance of being heard on the radio.

The closing date for entries is January 31, 2010. See www.topchoirkent.org for details.

Ambassadors take care to raise our awareness

KENT County Council has deployed social care ambassadors to help encourage young people into the profession.

Oliver Mills, the director of adult social services at County Hall, said there was a shortage of workers in the sector and because of the ageing population that need was set to continue to increase.

He said: "Numbers, particularly of older people and people with dementia are going to greatly increase, at a great rate as well.

"If we are providing care and support and looking to the future, as time goes by, unless society turns its back on that, there will always be a growing need for people with these skills and doing that kind of job."

He said care ambassadors were a key part of raising awareness about social care in Kent. There are 41 care workers across Kent and Medway who give talks to school and college leavers, at career and recruitment fairs and also at Job Centre Pluses.

KCC said five people who use the services they provide are now involved in the ambassador programme working to raise awareness about social care.

Mr Mills added: "We need to make sure that we get the best people doing the job, people who are well trained and who want to do it – that is a big challenge.

"Care ambassadors are the best people to explain their jobs… They are people who love doing it and have a real passion and can describe what it is really like in care."

• ***See www.kent.gov.uk/careambassador or call 01622 696 020 for details.***

Awards do justice to dedication

STAFF at Kent's Criminal Justice Board are celebrating picking up four national awards.

They took one win and three highly commended gongs at the national Justice Awards ceremony when they battled against 900 nominations at Banqueting House, London.

A project called Children and Families Enterprise, better known as CAFE, won the 'working with offenders' team category.

Martin Barrett of Kent Probation was highly commended in the volunteer of the year category, along with Stuart Robins of the Mediation Service in the caring for victims category, and finally the Community Domestic Abuse programme was partnership of the year.

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PREPARED: Kim Hills and one of his crew with the gritters that will clear our roads

Salt of the earth keep us moving

KENT'S fleet of salting lorries have been put on standby to begin gritting if icy conditions threaten the roads network.

Kent Highway Services head of community operations Kim Hills said: "We are well-prepared to deal with winter weather conditions affecting our roads.

"While severe weather is most likely to be experienced in December, January and February, as we all know, the weather can sometimes be unpredictable and ice and snow can occur both before and after the winter months.

"This year Kent Highway Services will introduce a new salting system that sprays a saline solution on the crushed rock salt as it is fired out of the lorries.

"This new, pre-wet salting system makes salting more effective at preventing icing of our roads – and uses less salt."

KHS has stockpiled around 20,000 tonnes of salt at seven depots, and each lorry can hold up to seven tonnes of salt.

KHS does not salt the motorways or trunk roads, which are looked after by the Highways Agency.

Seaside entertainment needn't dry up when the sun goes

Dive into the coast

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

BOAT trips, bike rides and beach sculptures are all planned for the third annual Kent's Coastal Week, which starts this weekend.

More than 70 attractions are signed up for this year's event, which is described as a celebration of the county's coastline and is sponsored by the Environment Agency and Natural England.

Restaurants will offer special seafood menus throughout the course of the event, which runs until Sunday, November 1, while there will also be a wide range of exhibitions, activities and demonstrations at various locations throughout Kent.

There will even be attractions for residents who live miles from the coast, such as Monday's Celebrate Our Living Seas crafts and activity day at Sevenoaks visitor centre, between 11am and 3pm.

The week is being co-ordinated by Explore Kent, which is part of Kent County Council.

Coastal officer Chris Drake said: "It's really to highlight what a great place the coast is throughout the year. There's a lot of focus on the Garden of England and going to the coast in the summer, but it also has a lot to offer for walking, bird-watching and other activities.

"The week is mainly aimed at Kent residents at the moment, but as it continues to build over the years we hope it will attract more people from outside the county too."

MAKING A SPLASH: Whitstable is one of many places to find coastal treasures and delights

Kent has a strong fishing tradition with a diverse range of seafood being landed regularly, including sole, bass and cod, and scallops, cockles and oysters.

At its peak towards the end of the Victorian era Ramsgate was the third largest fishing port in England, with the entire North Sea fleet of 150 trawlers based there.

Last year there were 85 licensed fishing vessels in the county, with 180 people directly employed in Ramsgate and at the other key ports of Whitstable and Folkestone.

The theme of this year's Coastal Week is 'fishing and eating for a healthy sea', with the aim of promoting sustainable fishing.

Mr Drake said: "This is a unique opportunity for residents and visitors to find out why fishing, seafood and sea life are so important to us. We want people to enjoy a taste of our fish in a restaurant, as well as get out in a boat and appreciate the marine life thriving underwater around our shores.

"There's a wealth of great food produced along our coasts, but lots of it is sold on the Continent, so we are trying to make people aware of what is available to them in Kent and help the local economy at the same time."

Visit the Explore Kent section of www.kent.gov.uk for full details of Kent's Coastal Week.

THE 2009 KENTISH GAME SEASON HAS STARTED

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CHRIS BRITCHER
CAMPAIGN EDITOR
chris.britcher@kosmedia.co.uk

Chickens now enjoying free range of the marsh

If there's only one time when you definitely get what you pay for then it would have to be in relation to food. We take a look at the increasing public awareness of a poultry life

FOR years it has been renowned for its succulent lamb – but now Romney Marsh is emerging as a hotbed of something just as tasty... chicken.

What's more, the freedom of the marsh is ensuring this new breed of animal is reared to the highest standards for today's ever-demanding customers.

Doug Wanstall, one of the farmers who provides quality produce for www.foodforkent.co.uk, explained: "We have always had great beef, pork and lamb from Kentish farms but to date we have had to travel as far as Essex for our chicken.

"Great news, now, however, is that we have got a new chicken producer in Kent."

Clive and Deborah Ovenden have started producing chickens and Aylesbury ducks to the highest quality.

Slow matured and reared outside on a natural diet, these produce tasty and succulent table birds. Being raised in small batches, the birds range in sizes with the larger ones easily feeding up to six people.

And they come at the perfect time too as public pressure on the way chickens are raised continues to hit the headlines.

Mr Wanstall said Foodforkent.co.uk, is selling the new range: "I was horrified to see you can actually buy a chicken in the supermarkets for £3.

"This, in my opinion is unsustainable. Intensive chicken farmers make at best a few pence, and I do mean a few pence per bird profit, and at worst a loss.

"The supermarkets have driven down the cost and thus the need to produce more meat for less and less money continues. This causes a downward spiral in price and the relative welfare of the chickens.

"There is only so far this can go before farmers stop producing and then the infrastructure that supports the industry starts to break down and the supply of chicken slows and the price goes back up. We have seen this exact scenario with pigs, where the entire UK pig industry – that has the highest standards in the world – has started to falter and fail due to lack of production. After years of making losses the farmers have had enough."

Mr Wanstall, who himself farms free range chickens on his estate in Aldington, near Ashford, added: "Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall did a lot to help raise awareness of the plight of farmed chickens in the UK.

"I think it is fair to say that most animal products in this country are produced to some of the highest welfare standards in the world. That said, you cannot beat that extra taste and reassurance of the highest welfare and standard of living that a free roaming animal or bird offers.

"Intensive chickens are slaughtered at as little as 32 days of age, which is not enough time to get any real flavour into the bird.

"Combine the extra maturity with a varied diet and free range birds really are that much better. The example of free range against intensive chickens is proof, if it were needed, that cheaper is definitely not better."

Who do you think is the taste of Kent?

VOTING for this year's Taste of Kent Awards continues – giving you the chance to award the county's top producers and providers of top quality food and drink.

Voting is simple – and can be done online with just a few clicks of a mouse.

Simply log on to www.producedinkent.co.uk and click on the category you want to vote in. Then click on the drop down list and cast your vote for one of the nominated candidates.

And if your choice isn't on the list – simply add them on and vote. You may only vote once in each category.

Your votes will decide which businesses make the top three shortlist, where they will then be judged by an expert panel, mystery shopper or diner. While much of the attention will go to the winner of the prestigious Kent Restaurant of the Year award – where special consideration is paid to those establishments showcasing top quality locally grown food and drink – there are a number of other eagerly contested categories.

They include: Kent butcher/meat producer of the year; best Kentish beer; best Kentish wine; best Kentish cider and perry; Kent juice producer of the year; Kent local food retailer of the year; Kent seafood retailer of the year; Kent food product; Kent food producer of the year; Kent pub of the year; Kent farmers' market of the year.

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foodforkent.co.uk We are committed to adding more local suppliers to our online service and any local business or producer that wishes to join our campaign should contact us at foodforkent.co.uk or email us at feedback@kosmedia.co.uk

Patients warned over the perils of cut-price foreign cosmetic surgery

By JENNA PUDELEK
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

A PLASTIC surgeon has warned patients about the risks of going abroad for cheap tummy tucks and boob jobs.

It comes as a survey by the British Association of Aesthetic Plastic Surgeons (BAAPS) found that over the last 18 months, 26 per cent of surgeons have noticed an increase in patients experiencing complications following cosmetic surgery 'holidays'.

Brent Tanner, consultant plastic, reconstructive and aesthetic surgeon at Spire Tunbridge Wells Hospital, said: "There has been a wave of patients going to foreign countries. Quite a lot of these people are fine, but about 10 per cent need an adjustment or something.

"With aesthetic surgery there are two things – what you look like afterwards, and whether you are ill because of it."

He said examples of problems included people who had facelifts, but were left with their eyelid pulled down because too much skin was taken; or the skin was pulled too tight by mistake, which can leave the skin's surface raw. More extreme examples of botched plastic surgery include bleeding after the operation, he said.

Mr Tanner said that even after the best surgery, liposuction may need "evening out" to make both sides the same.

He said the problem was often that if people went abroad for cheaper operations, follow-up appointments and aftercare were not included in the price.

"For people who smoke or who are dieting like mad, the surgeon should say stop smoking and put on weight, but if you are with one of those foreign surgeons they go ahead with the operation. There is no particular country that is worst, but Poland and Indonesia have started opening up shops recently."

BAAPS said it had carried out extensive research into cosmetic surgery 'tourism'.

Nigel Mercer, a consultant plastic surgeon and president of the association, said: "It is a serious concern that despite the economic downturn – or perhaps because of it – the public is swayed by the promise of cheap surgery without being given the appropriate information to make an informed decision.

"I find it appalling that most of these companies do not even mention risks, nor do they appear to have in place any mechanism if complications do arise."

STITCH-UP: Foreign aesthetic surgery has left people with bleeding after an operation

Mr Tanner used to work as a consultant at the Queen Victoria Hospital NHS Foundation Hospital in East Grinstead, which specialises in reconstructive and plastic surgery for patients from across southern England.

He said surgery to repair botched boob jobs and other invasive procedures that have gone wrong will only be provided on the NHS if there is a medical reason, and not purely for aesthetic reasons.

Mr Tanner said serious complications were rare, but they did happen and he advised people to research prospective surgeons and hospitals carefully.

"In light of the recession, people are tending to shop around a lot more to get a better quality result," he said.

"While internet use is encouraged, particularly patient-led forums, certain websites are biased. The consultation process is vital and it is important for people to meet their surgeon before they commit to surgery."

He said anyone having plastic surgery at home or abroad should find out what aftercare and follow-up appointments would be provided in the price.

BAAPS surveyed its 226 members across the UK for its cosmetic surgery tourism report.

One surgeon reported more than 16 problem cases over the last 18 months from patients having operations abroad.

The association is based at the Royal College of Surgeons and is a not-for-profit organisation established for the advancement of education in and the practice of plastic surgery. It is not a regulatory body, but member are fully trained and on the Specialist Register held by the General Medical Council.

Slip-road HGV fire

FIREFIGHTERS were called to an HGV fire near to a slip-road on to the M25 last weekend.

A fire crew from Tonbridge extinguished the flames on the burning Volvo lorry at Leerway, just off the turn-off of the London-bound carriageway of the motorway near Sevenoaks, on Sunday, October 18 at 2.23pm.

The fire was put out by 2.46pm. No-one was injured during the incident, but it did cause some delays for motorists.

College picks well

HADLOW College was a major sponsor of the National Fruit Show which took place this week.

The event ran at the Kent County Showground in Detling on Wednesday and Thursday and was so popular with traders keen to be represented it sold out of exhibition space three weeks in advance.

The event, organised by the Marden Fruit Show Society since 1933, combines a fruit competition for commercial apple and pear growers with a two-day trade exhibition.

Kent Highway Services

For information and advice on travelling in Kent, go to www.kent.gov.uk/highways

For all our Traffic Regulation Orders, please go to pages 44, 45 & 46

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KENT ON SUNDAY

COMMENT

Glass half empty for booze debate?

NEXT month residents will help shape NHS priorities by taking part in a discussion about alcohol. At least that's the plan.

The Big Drink Debate has been set up to help health professionals understand why people drink, how much they drink and what they think it will do to their bodies.

It is hoped 200 people will attend the event at the Hazlitt Theatre, but how many of those will actually provide meaningful feedback?

Will any of the assembled throng be teenagers who spend their Friday nights drinking bottles of White Lightning in the park? Will any be middle-aged alcoholics who have yet to realise they have a problem?

It is more likely the people who would voluntarily take part in such a discussion are the ones least likely to end up in a hospital bed due to a drink-related disease.

Nevertheless, the NHS should be congratulated for at least attempting to tackle what is a growing problem. Too many people are falling ill and dying as a result of alcohol abuse, so if the Big Drink Debate can help in any way, it should be commended.

Test of character

CONGRATULATIONS are in order for the 5,113 children told this week that they had passed the Kent Test.

Our commiserations also to all those who did not pass, but rest assured there is still success in the future for all who are willing to work for it – regardless of what school you go to.

OPINION: We have but one choice

The need for more grammar schools is inescapable, says North Thanet MP Roger Gale

OUR young people have excelled in this year's Kent Test. That is gratifying and rather calls into question some intemperate and ill-considered remarks made by one Government minister.

Ed Balls is Gordon Brown's left-hand man and resident school bully. He is also Secretary of State for Education. Mr Balls doesn't like grammar schools. In particular, he doesn't like Kent's grammar schools.

In a recent outburst he said so and blamed Kent's selective system for the fact some of the county's schools don't tick all his boxes. Not surprisingly, county council leader Paul Carter took exception and wrote asking Mr Ball to justify his criticisms.

I have yet to see a response, but I'm sure his department will be busy preparing the right form of words for him to sign.

Hot on the heels of the minister, we receive a volley from the head of Canterbury High School. The Kent Test (or 11-plus) is "close to the emotional abuse of children", he says. I don't know whether Phil Karnavas took the Kent Test or equivalent himself, but I did. Whisper it, but I went to a grammar school. Worse still, I went to a boarding grammar.

I recall not caring for exams much, but I don't recall being traumatised by the taking of that particular test.

What I do remember is sharing playing fields and classrooms and associations and after-school societies and activities with young people from every background, save for the rich, who were sent to public schools.

Not being bookish, I bumped along close to the bottom of the 'A' stream and engaged, each year successfully, in the struggle to avoid relegation. Even that didn't traumatise me. I believe my school epitomised the greatest possible of social levellers.

It offered mobility and opportunity that simply wasn't available in the comprehensive system that replaced it in much of Britain. It didn't create 'successes and failures', but allowed those of an academic bent to get on with the development of their particular talents while others, equally talented and differently able, developed more practical and technical skills.

My own experience is, of course, historic. However, in my 26 years as an MP I have found myself confronted each spring with the school choice problem.

Generally, this has arisen from a failure to obtain a place and one of three preferred schools.

Occasionally it has been caused by a perception that the results of the Kent Test have not been fair. We have endeavoured to address both categories through the appeals system. The process is sometimes difficult, but I have seen nothing that justifies a suggestion of "emotional abuse" or that equates with the grief caused by the Government's internal testing systems.

Kent's cabinet member for education, Cllr Sarah Hohler, has said "Kent's 100 secondary schools, which include foundation, trust, faith, grammar, community, high, wide ability and academies, offer something for everyone".

She has a challenge this year. Every pupil who passed the Kent Test has a right to a place at a grammar as close to their home as possible. It will not be good enough to transport children around the county because some areas are oversubscribed while others have vacancies. We have to expand the grammar schools – and we can.

For too long Kent, as the surviving county with the widest selective system, was in thrall to senior officers who chose to toe the line rather than implement the policies of the county's elected members. As a result, the impression has been given that it isn't possible for Kent to expand its grammar schools. That isn't true.

It is, in fact, Kent's policy to "achieve an overall selection rate in the selective areas across the county of 25 per cent" has been used to stifle growth.

Kent can change that policy and I believe that, in the preparation for a much-needed change of government, it must do so to pave the way for the creation of new grammars in areas where there is a lack of provision.

Unlike some who would choose to deny others the benefits of a system they have enjoyed, I want Kent's children to have the widest available range of educational choices.

The Government claims academic standards are rising. If that means more children are qualifying for grammar school, then we need more grammars.

• ***Roger Gale is Conservative MP for Thanet North.***

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Join the health debate

In August we conducted an innovative experiment with Medway Council's health committee and held the meeting in the community rather than in the council chamber – a first for Medway.

Thanks to this, 30 or more people came along to put their questions to health officials and listen to the debate on issues such as the potential health implications of phone masts and the preparedness of Medway's health services for the winter, especially swine flu.

It was such a success that we are going to repeat it. The next health meeting will be at the Brook Theatre, Chatham, on Wednesday. The meeting is scheduled to start at 2.30pm but I would urge people to come from 2pm and join us for tea and biscuits.

This time we are discussing the older persons' plan, an important document which will help to address the needs of Medway's growing older population. We are also discussing safeguarding vulnerable adults.

If you can come along, I, and the rest of the committee, would like to hear your views.

Cllr Mike O'Brien, chairman, health committee, Medway Council

Labour's Lisbon lies

I am amazed that Donald Worsley, the Labour parliamentary candidate for Folkestone and Hythe, has been accepted.

I would have the thought a priority in hoping to become an MP would be to know what you are talking about.

Let me help him with his misunderstanding of the Lisbon Treaty. It is not Tory cowardice that has created this undemocratic mess, it is Labour lies and broken promises.

Labour promised us a referendum on the Lisbon Treaty, then reneged. Cowardice is Gordon Brown purposely avoiding the signing ceremony and sneaking in on his own to sign the treaty, hoping we wouldn't notice him breaking a manifesto promise. The question is why Tony Blair displayed cowardice in letting Mr Brown push him out of office, when he promised to serve a full term – another Labour lie. It would appear Tony was prepared to break his promise so as to allow Gordon to become unelected Prime Minister, if Gordon would break the manifesto promise and back Tony to become the EU president.

Finally, you should know it is impossible for the Conservatives to hold a referendum because they aren't in government, the only way that they can hold a referendum is if they win the next election and the treaty has not been signed by all member states.

Stefan Reszczynski, Margate

Is it Gurkha, or Nepalese?

Regarding the Gurkha cemetery in Ashford, saying anything against the Gurkhas has become as big a taboo as not going along with the general PC approach to any minority – but here some edges are being blurred.

A Gurkha is, first and foremost, a soldier who has served this country and deserves all the benefits given to any British national who has done the same.

There are many war cemeteries both here and overseas that are wonderfully tended in memory of those who have died for their country, but not their relatives.

We need to identify which the Ashford cemetery is. If it is for Gurkhas, the sign is right and proper, but if it is for the Nepalese community, it needs to be clearly identified as such.

LD Goddard, Ashford

Crossing belongs to us

So the Government wants to sell off more assets to balance the books. These are to include the Channel Tunnel rail link and the Dartford crossing. I am only just old enough to remember when there was only one tunnel and recall my father saying the government of the day promised to stop charging when the cost had been recovered.

It was then decided to build a second tunnel, opened in 1983, so charging continued. The Queen Elizabeth II bridge was built and opened in 1991, again charging contiued to pay for the bridge. About 10 years later Ukip led a campaign to stop the charges, as the bridge had been paid for by the motorist.

It belongs to the drivers who use the tunnel, not the Government. If they sell it to a private concern, charging will continue for ever. I have an idea to save a few quid without selling assets: leave the EU. We might even be able to stop charging for the tunnel.

Bob Oakley, Ukip parliamentary candidate for Gillingham and Rainham

I saw Cyprus slaughter

I was surprised and disappointed by Steve Knight's lack of balance in last week's story concerning Roger Gale MP and Cyprus. Mr Gale's misinterpretation of recent Cypriot history is indefensible.

In December, 1962, armed Greek Cypriots murdered defenseless Turkish Cypriots, including a young woman in Nicosia in what was the precursor to a remorseless campaign of ethnic cleansing that lasted until 1974, when civil war between EOKA-B thugs turned against the Turkish Cypriots once more. Turkey, which had for 12 years protested to the UN, Greece and the Cypriot government, had no choice but to protect the Turkish Cypriot minority to prevent the genocide that was occuring wherever the thugs of Makarios and EOKA-B were massing. I was there in 1963 and as a British soldier had to stand by and watch gangs of machinegun-toting thugs mocking us as they burned villages and slaughtered men, women and children. We were powerless because of Britain's cowardly policy of not rocking the boat so as to keep our bases open on the island – so much for the UN and the UK.

Mr Gale is the epitome of the ignorance of some politicians as to what really went on, taken in by the propaganda of Makarios, Samson and the Greek Cypriot government in their cynical lying as to who was really doing the killing. The Turkish Cypriots and Turkish government have consistently acted with quiet, dignified diplomacy in the face of Greek Cypriot media hysteria, with a weary acceptance that the world is still hypnotised by Greek and Greek Cypriot versions of this bloody period.

Ask Mr Gale what he knows of the documents presented to the UN of the Makarios enosis ('union') plan, proving Makarios and his like were planning genocide while crying to the world that they were living peacefully.

I don't recall Turkish Cypriots murdering British soldiers and their families, but I do recall Greek Cypriot thugs doing precisely that – I was there.

Patrick Ryan, Kent

Letters continued on page 34

YOUR LETTERS

KOS Media welcomes your comments and letters for publication. Please send correspondence to: Letters to the Editor, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR. Alternatively fax them to: 01303 817002, or email them to editorial@kosmedia.co.uk. Please include your name and address, although these will be withheld in exceptional circumstances. Please also include a daytime telephone number for verification (this will not be published). We reserve the right to edit letters.

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Karen and Ken celebrate the birth of their daughter Ruby Hope Beautridge-Bacon on 11th October 2009. Baby sister to Louie.

CUMMINS
John and Maxine are very happy to announce the birth of their son William Charles Cummins who was born at 2.19 am on the 28th September 2009 and weighed 8lb 8oz.

DYBALL
Leon and Marie of Herne Bay are delighted to announce the birth of their beautiful daughter, Lyla Skye Dyball, on 14th October at 7.23am weighing 7lb 12oz.

FINCHER
Dave Fincher and Debbie Pout celebrate the birth of their twins, Cameron and Megan, on 2nd October 2009.

JONES
David and Sharon are proud to announce the birth of Ben Franklin Jones born on 25th September 2009 weighing 8lb 15oz at 19.48 pm. Lots of love Mummy and Daddy and proud big brother Jack xx

LEWIS
Veron and Shalina are delighted to announce the birth of their beautiful daughter Siana Daisy Rose Lewis. Siana was born on the 5th October 2009 at 7.39 pm and weighed 5lb 5oz. She is a wonderful gift for her parents and extended family in England, Mauritius, Antigua and Montserrat.

PEARSON
Karen and Andrew celebrate the birth of their baby daughter Katie Angela Ann on 6th October 2009 weighing 7lb 5oz in Pembury Hospital.

UNITT
Debby Moyle and Alan Unitt celebrate the birth of their son Jack Richard Unitt on 8th October 2009, weighing 8lb 7oz.

WEBB
Lilly-May Sandra Cambden Webb born on 4th September 2009 beautiful daughter to Harley and Hayley in maidstone. Weighing 5lb 15oz.

WHELAN
Gemma and Lee celebrate the birth of their daughter Isla Colleen Tina Whelan on 5th October 2009. Baby sister to big brother Jacob.

ZEBUA
Leonardie born on 9th October 2009.Beautiful son to Robert and Louise in Margate. Welcome "my darling" brother, love Orlen.You are the miracle who we will love and treasure forever.

DEATHS

BURR
Christine Burr aged 59 years. Our Mum and Grandma passed away on 14th October 2009. You fought so bravely, All our love forever from Michelle, Susan, John, Tom, Sam, Daniel, Ben, Abbie, Bethan and Josh xxxxx. Donations can be made in her memory to Breakthrough Breast Cancer Research

DONOVAN
It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Ronald John Donovan of Gravesend on the Seventh October. A retired Crane Driver at IPM Gravesend. Known to one and all locally as Grandad. Funeral Wednesday 28th October at 10.40 at Medway Crematorium.

FINN
Wilfred (Wilf) Finn passed away on 15th October 2009, aged 84. Dearly loved husband of June, father of Hilary, grandfather of Graham and Claire and great-grandfather to Heather, Abi, and Harry.

HALL
Cyril Hall on the 12th October 2009 aged 85. Dearly loved husband of Shirley, father of Steven and Tony. Grandfather to Peter and Nicholas. Funeral service yet to be arranged. All enquiries to Doves Maidstone.

VULGAR
Ethel Mary Vulgar aged 93 years passed away peacefully on 20th October 2009 at Copperfield Residential Care Home. Much loved mother of Pat, Pauline and Allen.

Letters continued from page 33

MP lacking diplomacy

Let's address reality, because North Thanet MP Roger Gale is out of order and has a lot to learn. His remarks about US President Barack Obama prove he has no foreign affairs skills, let alone diplomacy.

If anyone was to order Turkey out of Cyprus they would be doing the Greeks' job for them. Want to argue? Bring it on. I have greater experience and knowledge regarding Turkey that he (or many MPs) will ever have. I know generals who were there in 1974 and have witnessed continued Greek aggression.

I have also met past and present Turkish prime ministers, among others. The invasion by Turkey was supported by Nato and the USA at the time and was a direct result of an attempted coup by the Cypriot National Guard, supported by the Greek military junta.

Basically, they proposed driving all Turks from the island, just as another junta aimed to do to Britons in 1982.

ROGER GALE MP

Yes, Turkey recognises the KKTC (the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus), but the EU has done nothing to solve the problems anyway.

In truth, it has antagonised the situation, just like Mr Gale. His referral to the Berlin Wall is not only an insult to Turkey but also Cyprus, Greece and the UK not least many Britons who died fighting for Cyprus.

Turkey may join the EU one day, but should the Lisbon Treaty be ratified, they should forget it. After all, Turkey doesn't need the EU, just as Britain should return to the original trade agreement and thereafter manage itself. Keep your biased thoughts to yourself, Mr Gale. And by the way, the present status is due to the fact that the Greek Cypriots voted not to accept Turkish Cypriots and thereby ratify reunification of the island.

Derek R Packham, Deal

Mr Gale's island bias

I am annoyed with the apparent bias and narrow view of Roger Gale MP (Obama 'doesn't know what he's talking about').

This kind of one-sided view is exactly why the problems of a divided Cyprus continue.

I favour no-one in this terrible situation, Greek, Turk or Cypriot, which drags on and on. In all conflicts there are two sides to the story, as Mr Gale should know. Let's start with some facts.

Mainland Greece is hundreds of kilometres from Cyprus. Mainland Turkey is less than 75km away. Turkish people have been on the island for hundreds of years.

Large proportions of the inhabitants were and still are Turkish Cypriots and were there long before 1974. The so-called invasion was more accurately an intervention, which was inevitable since terrorists were attempting to ethnically cleanse the island.

Greek Cypriots desired 'enosis' with the mainland in support of a right-wing military junta. Turkey could not stand by and watch this escalate. Many Turkish Cypriots were rounded up and murdered. In some cases all the male inhabitants of villages were killed. Many grave sites are evident across northern Cyprus.

In fact only last week the so-called 'missing bus' was highlighted, with the burial of the remains of Turkish Cypriot workers who were murdered in the 1960s on their way to work and subsequently dumped in a well.

Mr Gale states: "To this day the Turkish government refuses to reveal the location of graves."

This is tosh, there is a commission to uncover graves and reunite relatives with their lost loved ones' remains and carry out reburial.

Maybe he should read Cyprus Today, which has recently shown several examples of this. What about the 400-plus British servicemen murdered by Greek terrorists, in the 1950s whose graves can not be visited by their relatives?

The Greeks will not allow a memorial (as reported in the Daily Telegraph). No side comes out of this well. Atrocities have been committed on both sides in the past.

But at least the north tried to get the country reunified, voting overwhelmingly yes to the Annan plan, where as the south voted overwhelmingly against. Mr Gale's views do nothing to help the situation.

If he is going to raise the matter in the House of Commons, he would do well to have a less biased opinion.

Maybe he should read The History of Modern Cyprus, by Dr Stavros Panteli (a Greek), to get a better understanding.

May I also suggest Mr Gale tries talking to Turkish people and not just Greeks, for a more balanced view?

R Young, by email

The Channel corridor

It just proves what idiots we have in high places. The other week the Government was saying we need to produce more from our farms to increase food security.

Now the Government is probably going to allow more precious farmland to be buried for the proposed freight depot near Bearsted.

Make no mistake, this depot will have the blessing of the EU at Brussels and will likely qualify for funding from Brussels – using British taxpayers' money.

This part of the county lies in an area designated the Channel Corridor by Brussels.

The M20 and the rail link are also a major part of Brussels' trans-European transport network and nothing gets in the way of those ambitious plans, not even the British taxpayer who is coughing up billions to pay for it all.

Roger Arnold, Herne Bay

Kent TV saves money and we're proud of it

I'd like to put the record straight about Kent TV.

Kent TV has cost £1.2 million to run for two years (not £1.6 million as some have reported) and it has significantly contributed to the £1 million saving we have made to publicity costs this year.

It is run independently, has adopted Ofcom regulations and the editor reports to an independent board of governors.

Kent TV is a community channel with information and features – not 'news' – about the whole of Kent.

That's why residents have loaded some of the material themselves and the channel has worked with 130 organisations to help them promote their aims, including Business Link; Guide Dogs for the Blind Association; and Macmillan Cancer Support to name but a few.

The channel supports the county's tourism and business and helps Kent residents access services through an accessible format fit for the digital age we're in.

Taking these facts into consideration, I have to question whether those calling it 'town hall propaganda' have actually even looked at it.

The figures speak for themselves too; there have been 2.2 million views since Kent TV launched, there are more than 2000 films available and many of those have been viewed thousands of times.

The ground-breaking new drama series HollyWould… is just another example of how valuable the channel is.

The series tackles serious issues including sexual health, drink spiking and personal safety in a format that young people understand and already use.

It cost just £20,000 to make while the NHS will spend about £500,000 on A&E in Kent every weekend.

If HollyWould… stops just one person needing treatment it's paid for itself.

Kent TV is an innovation and we continue to be extremely proud of what it is achieving.

Peter Gilroy
Chief Executive
Kent County Council

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Campus equipped to give its students real sporting chance

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

SPORTS degree students are being invited to take advantage of the ever-improving facilities on offer at the University of Kent.

The Centre for Sports Studies, based at the university's Medway campus, is one of the fastest-growing academic sports departments in the country and now has more than 300 students working on undergraduate and postgraduate programmes.

September's intake was 140, marking an increase of 50 per cent on the previous year.

The centre's director is Professor Louis Passfield, a senior member of British Cycling who has helped train a host of Olympic, world and Commonwealth gold medallists.

Excellent

He said: "The record numbers reflect the fact that the reputation of our sports degrees has spread far and wide and we are now in great demand – not just within Kent, but across the country and overseas.

"In fact, we expect this level of growth to continue for the next two to three years.

"We offer our students an excellent experience here at Kent, in both academic and personal terms.

"We have a highly-skilled teaching team and clearly our students benefit from their expertise.

"We also provide high levels of personal support, outstanding facilities and a great track record of preparing our students for successful careers in the hugely competitive sports, exercise and leisure industries."

The Centre for Sports Science has also received a boost due to the university's involvement in the £11 million redevelopment of Gillingham's Black Lion leisure centre, which from January will become known as Medway Park.

Among the many new facilities will be dedicated seminar, research and therapy rooms for use by Kent's sports students, who will also be able to treat their own clients in a commercial sports injury clinic.

Prof Passmore added that the burgeoning research profile at the centre was another sign of its growing stature.

He said: "We have secured funding for scientific research from the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, Sport England and Medway Council, for example, and it's my goal that the insights and skills we gain as a department are passed directly onto our students.

"In the end our reputation will rest with our graduates and I'm convinced many will become outstanding practitioners and leaders in their professions."

A RUNAWAY SUCCESS: The Centre of Sports Studies' intake has increased by 50 per cent

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'Neet' solution to helping the jobless young

YOUNG people who have successfully found work or training explained how they did it at a conference last week.

Those who spoke at the Maidstone event were previously classed as Neets – not in education, employment or training – but had been helped to overcome their problems through advice-based initiatives.

Managers from schools and colleges were present at the conference, as well as dedicated 'Neet champions' from government organisations such as Connexions.

The event was organised by Kent County Council in partnership with the Kent Association of Further Education Corporations, the Learning and Skills Council, and the Kent Association of Training Providers.

Construction course builds teens' future

TEENAGERS on a construction course run by the crime reduction charity Nacro are helping to build an 'eco-chateau' in France.

Once complete, the carbon-negative building will teach people from across Europe about sustainable living while providing courses in areas such as catering and hospitality.

Kevin Corcoran, centre manager for Nacro Pathways in Chatham, said: "This is a really innovative project and a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for the young people we support.

"Not only will it be a chance for them to develop the skills they've been learning with us, but they'll also be taught how to pull together as a team to get a job done."

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Your Move is a progressive, people focussed company dedicated to achieving the highest levels of customer service. We are looking for like minded candidates who are highly driven, self motivated, enthusiastic and ambitious. Experience within the industry is an advantage, although full training will be provided. The positions are diverse incorporating residential property sales and lettings and the successful candidates will have career prospects. A full driving licence is required.

Candidates wishing to apply should write or e-mail enclosing full CV with contact details to:
Oliver Blake - Area Director
Your Move, 93 Commercial Road
Paddock Wood, Kent TN12 6DS
E-mail Oliver.blake2@your-move.co.uk

BRICKLAYERS, HODDIES & FORKLIFT DRIVER
required for site in Dover for 19th October.
Must have current CSCS card, also CRB checks will be required.
Please call Kim
07538 435741

Home Service Complete Care
Small Residential Care Home in Herne Bay requires
Local Carers
to work Awake Night Shift, Thursdays – Hours 8.30pm to 8.30am
• Good Rates of Pay • In-House Training Provided
• NVQ Training Available • Friendly Atmosphere
Please call (01227) 374633 or 362312
Email: hernebay@home-service.c.uk
All applications are subject to CRB Disclosure

HMT Care
HMT Care is dedicated to the care of people diagnosed within the spectrum of neuro-disability, particularly HUNTINGTON'S DISEASE. We provide an holistic and person-centred approach to care and require dedicated and committed staff to work with us.

Duties will include personal care and day-to-day assistance and support of residents.

A competitive salary, promotion prospects, accredited specialist training, together with NVQ opportunities, is our commitment to you.

Previous experience and qualifications are an advantage, but are not essential. Starting salary £6.35 - £6.98 per hour

Day and night staff positions are available on full - time and part - time basis. Successful applicants are required to provide an enhanced disclosure

To request an application form and information please call Rachel Shales on 01227 373586 weekdays between 10am and 4pm

HMT Care

Tel No: 01227 373586 **Fax No. 01227 749115**

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Healthcare Assistants
Registered Nurses
Day & Night Duties Available
(Own Transport Required)
To provide care for people in their own homes
Hours available *NOW*
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This job entails supporting our client's in their own homes by providing personal care, domestic duties, shopping calls and many more daily tasks.
Flexible working hours, days, evenings, weekends Available.
Excellent rates of pay
In house training and NVQ's available
Call today on Tel: 01227 362312
for Herne Bay & Whitstable Area
Or Email: hernebay@home-service.co.uk
All applications are subject to CRB disclosure

To advertise in this section **01303 817040**

Children's Support Worker – Sunlight Project

£21,306 - £27,573 + ESSENTIAL CAR USER ALLOWANCE OF UP TO £1,170

MATERNITY COVER FOR SIX MONTHS • 37 HOURS PER WEEK
BASED IN CANTERBURY COVERING THE SWALE AREA

KCA (UK) is an expanding and vibrant organisation providing a wide range of high quality and innovative specialist services in the drug, alcohol and mental health sectors.

KCA Young Persons' Services provide specialist substance misuse help for children, young people, their families and carers. The Sunlight Project, funded by the Big Lottery Fund, offers support to children from substance misusing families in Swale, Dover and Thanet.

We require a support worker to deliver our group work programmes aimed at 7 – 13 year old children who are affected by someone else's misuse of substances. The groups promote emotional and psychological well-being through structured sessions. The project works closely with Children's Social Services, schools and other children's services.

You will need experience of working with children and delivering group work interventions. Ideally you will also have a sound knowledge of substance misuse issues.

Application forms and job descriptions can be downloaded from www.kca.org.uk or call 01795 590635. Please quote reference number 611.

Closing date: 30 October 2009. Interview date: 10 November 2009.

KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all and welcomes applications from people with experience of substance use or who have had previous problems with substance misuse. Charity no: 292824.

www.kca.org.uk

INVESTORS IN PEOPLE

Administrative/Reception Positions for Medway Walk-in Centres

Are you interested in working for a dynamic, ambitious, growing organisation?

DMC healthcare is one of the leading providers of high quality Primary Care services across 12 sites and for over 40,000 patients.
We have a dedicated team of GPs, Nurses, Admin Staff and external consultants helping us deliver excellent care.

We operate 8am till 8pm 365 days a year at a number of practices in the Kent area. We are offering full and part-time positions.

We are looking for dedicated and hard working candidates to fill this position. Ideal candidates should have the following:

- Minimum of 1 year previous administrative experience and working knowledge of good office practice/ reception work
- Computer literate, good telephone manner and team player with a desire to deliver excellence in customer care
- Full UK driving license
- Previous NHS experience an advantage

Closing date: 4th November 2009

Interested?

Send your CV to Gene Fitzpatrick, HR Assistant at recruitment@dmchealthcare.co.uk or call 0207 635 1030
www.dmchealthcare.co.uk/jobs

NHS

healthcare dmc

Customer Services Advisor P/T
£17k - £18k pro rata 2.5 days per week

Kent music

Working for Kent's renowned music provider, Kent Music, this is an excellent opportunity for an administration orientated person to work in the music and education sector.

Please call 01622 358435 for an application form.

More information on Kent Music can be found on: www.kent-music.com

Deadline for applications Friday 6th November 2009
Interviews will be held w/b 16th November 2009.

To advertise in this section
01303 817040

Benecare Children's Services

RESIDENTIAL SUPPORT WORKERS FOR CHILDREN'S HOME

SALARY RANGE £11620 (Trainee Grade) to £24,000 pa. Plus Increments and allowances

We are looking for Residential support workers at all levels- including Deputy Managers to complement our existing team and to build a second team for our new home.

The work is challenging, rewarding, and important. You will be joining a team of experienced professionals dedicated to providing therapeutic care within a homely and nurturing environment for our children and young people.

To find out more please contact our Manager Lyn Gibbs on 01227 369089 or visit our website to download an application form: www.benecareltd.co.uk

For informal discussion and advice on other related opportunities please contact Steve Richmond, Director on 07710 145802 or 01892 740886

ANCHOR BAY CONSTRUCTION PRODUCTS LIMITED
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POSITIONS AVAILABLE

ANCHOR BAY ARE A LEADING INDEPENDENT SUPPLIER FOR CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS AND WE ARE CURRENTLY RECRUITING FOR IMMEDIATE START AT OUR HEAD OFFICE / WAREHOUSE IN CENTURION WAY ERITH.

WAREHOUSE MANAGER

Experienced warehouse Manager required to manage multiple warehouse picking staff, production line staff, Multi drop drivers and must be trained in Health & Safety. MUST BE EXPERIENCED

WAREHOUSE OPERATIVES

Must be fork lift trained and have warehouse picking experience.

Excellent rates of pay and long term future for the right candidate.

Please Call Faye Webb on 0208 320 3896 for immediate interview.

KOS Media is a highly successful newspaper publisher within Kent, that has received many awards from the newspaper industry.

We now have vacancies in our Production Department for experienced

Mac Operators

We are looking for experienced, confident and self-motivated team players, preferably with newspaper experience, who are seeking to further their career within the industry.
The individual must have relevant Mac experience, including knowledge of Quark, Photoshop and Illustrator.
The position involves creating visuals for customers, ad setting, including property and motors, creating classified sections and make-up of pages to be sent to our printers.
The candidate should be able to work under pressure, meet strict deadlines and be eager to work within a team environment to ensure the smooth operation of our fast-paced production department.
Hours will include a Saturday or Sunday.
Previous applicants need not apply.

To apply, send a CV and covering letter to:
Personnel, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road Smeeth, Kent TN25 6SR
or email: **personnel@kosmedia.co.uk**

KOS media
Award winning publications
www.kentnews.co.uk

Administrator Required

You will be a key part of a very busy office where initiative, enthusiasm and accuracy are extremely important. You must be resourceful, organised, have good IT skills, and an ability to work to deadlines.
Your duties will include:
Answering switchboard calls and dealing with enquiries.
Supporting our field sales executives in an administrative role – sending and checking emails, writing letters, post, taking bookings for clients and proofing adverts.
Booking on adverts and page planning for our numerous titles.
Assisting our production department in the collating and processing of advertisement copy to meet deadlines.

Please apply in writing, quoting: Reference sales admin, to:
Jo Nicoll, Personnel Department
KoS Media
Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth
Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR
Telephone: (01303) 817000
E-mail: jo.nicoll@kosmedia.co.uk

KOS media
Award winning publications
www.kentnews.co.uk

Things are not going his way and he doesn't know how to deal with it

rebound Children's Services

Training Centre Assistants

Medway Secure Training Centre, Rochester

£20,159 pa | 40 hours (Rotating shifts)

Life can be an uphill struggle for young people who have been sentenced or remanded into custody. There are many hurdles they need to overcome to reach a brighter future. They are often angry, scared, confused or even destructive. They may not want to communicate. They may not know how to communicate.

As part of our committed team, your energetic and enthusiastic attitude will gain the respect of our young people. It will help them take stock of their lives, adopt a more positive approach and learn to respect others.

Working directly with the young people, helping them learn social and life skills, motivating them to complete their daily tasks and ensuring that the centre rules are followed are just a few of the things you'll do in this busy and varied role.

You will need to be non-judgmental and compassionate with a firm but fair approach. Helping to build self esteem, you'll help to guide our young people to a fresh start and release their true potential.

Think you've got what it takes to make a real difference? Call us now on: 01634 823322 Monday to Friday, 9.00am to 4.30pm quoting: KSTC10.

Closing date: 30th October 2009.
Assessment day: 12th November 2009.

Please note that these vacancies are subject to a 10 year checkable history, an enhanced CRB check and the strict vetting standards set by Rebound and the Secretary of State for the Home Office. Rebound is a part of G4S Care & Justice Services (UK) Limited.

www.reboundecd.com

An equal opportunities employer

Pilgrims Hospices

YOUTH FUNDRAISING CO-ORDINATOR
Canterbury based

An exciting opportunity has arisen for the above post designed to focus on involving young people in fundraising within Pilgrims Hospices. The Youth Fundraising Co-ordinator will be responsible for the development of fundraising and volunteering within schools, colleges and universities.

The successful applicant will have experience of community fundraising, public speaking and have excellent communication skills. The applicant will be personable, approachable and able to relate well to people at all levels.
Additionally they will be IT literate with excellent planning skills and an eye for detail, have access to own transport and be willing to work flexibly with minimum supervision.

For a full job description and application form please download from www.pilgrimshospice.org

Closing date: Wednesday 11 November 2009

Pilgrims Hospices in East Kent is a registered charity no. 293968

Part-Time Merchandiser & Distributors required

JOIN OUR AWARD WINNING TEAM AND EARN EXTRA CASH

Opportunities are available to join our team in the Tunbridge Wells and Sevenoaks area.

The merchandiser position is working 16 hours a week visiting various distribution points to maximise marketing opportunities.

Our distributors position is for three hours on Saturday afternoon delivering our newspapers to various outlets.

Rate of pay is £6.50 per hour plus mileage.

Initiative and smart appearance are the qualifications we need for you to become a representative of our award winning company.

If interested, please contact
Barbara Coker on 01303 817072

KOS media
Award winning publications
www.kentnews.co.uk

Telesales Executive

We have an exciting opportunity for you to join our Multi Media business which includes the award winning Kent on Saturday and Kent on Sunday newspapers.

If you are highly driven, confident, a self motivated team player with good communication skills, who is able to work under pressure to deadlines and targets, in our fast paced and fun telesales department, then apply.

You will be office based and working with an existing client base of advertisers where customer service is paramount, but you must also be able to search out new business to develop and grow your territory revenues and opportunities. Due to location, you need to have your own transport and a proven track record in sales is preferable.

We offer:
- Good basic salary
- Performance and revenue related bonuses
- Five weeks holiday a year

Apply in writing to:
Tracy Morgan, Telesales Manager, KOS Media Ltd, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent or email tracy.morgan@kosmedia.co.uk

KOS media
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The Black Horse
At Pembury

Requires a bar person for Friday Evenings. £30net
Sunday Lunchtimes 11:45am - 4pm. £25net

Telephone
01892 822141

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Carers FIRST

PARENT CARER SUPPORT WORKER

Part-Time 15 hours Salary £17,419 p.a pro rata

We seek a highly motivated person to join our experienced team to identify and support the needs of parents of children who are ill or disabled. The role is to provide advocacy, emotional and practical support and lead support groups. Previous knowledge of social and health care gained either in the statutory or voluntary sector and driving license is desirable.

Enhanced CRB check.

Other benefits include access to a healthcare plan, childcare vouchers, reduced rate membership to a local health club, excellent holiday entitlement, training and development opportunities.

For an application pack, please contact Micheala Clack on 01732 357555. Closing date 6 November 2009.

Carers FIRST is an Equal Opportunities Employer

Assistant Manager
Required For Residential Care Home In Folkestone

We are looking to recruit an enthusiastic and committed person.
Must have Minimum NVQ Level 3 Qualification, and Experience in the role above.

Please call Miss Julia Carter (Home Manager) on 01303 254019

Subject to satisfactory CRB Check

People United

Operations Manager

We are looking for an experienced person to be responsible for the smooth running of our innovative charity; supporting and overseeing areas such as administration, communications, finance and fundraising.

Pro-rata £25,000 / initially 3 days a week (flexible) / Canterbury-based

For more information see **www.peopleunited.org.uk**, email **info@peopleunited.org.uk** or contact Tom Andrews on **01227 470973**.
Closing date for applications 5pm 9 November.

Need a new challenge?
Are you **the best at what you do** and **can deliver a level of service that exceeds industry standards?**

valet Canterbury is THE premier male grooming facility in Kent. The flagship Canterbury store is opening in December.

We are now recruiting **full-time positions** for **highly skilled, motivated** and **experienced individuals** to join the valet Canterbury team:

- **Qualified barber with wet shave experience**
- **Qualified hair stylist**
- **Qualified beauty therapist**

As a successful member of the valet team you will enjoy a strong basic salary and impressive commission structure.

Send your CV to **recruitment@valet-canterbury.com**
Shortlisted candidates will be contacted for an interview
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www.valet-canterbury.com

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ACH is a fast-growing organisation, developing new, high-quality residential homes for adults with Learning Disabilities.
Due to our continued growth we now require for our homes in
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the following staff to complement our team:

SUPPORT WORKERS
Salary from £13,250

We also require BANK WORKERS

For an application pack please visit our website at www.achuk.com
Alternatively e-mail louise.burrows@achuk.com
or contact Human Resources on 0208 502 8871.

TONBRIDGE SCHOOL
PORTER
To commence January 2010

A member of the team of Porters responsible for a variety of general tasks.
You will be reliable, physically fit, able to work unsupervised and have excellent communication skills.
Good team skills and flexibility required.
Shift rota in operation.
Uniform provided.
Driving licence essential.

Basic £16,609 + shift allowance and excellent benefits.

Full details and an application form can be found on the school's website: **www.tonbridge-school.co.uk**

or call for further information: John Nash, Personnel Manager
Tonbridge School, Tonbridge, TN9 1JP
Tel: 01732 365555 ext.4252
jfn@tonbridge-school.org

Closing date: 10th November 2009

Tonbridge School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, and applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers and the Criminal Records Bureau.

Receive a helping hand searching for a new job

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Marlowe Academy

Stirling Way, Ramsgate, Kent CT12 6NB
Tele: 01843 593326
www.marloweacademy.co.uk

Learning Mentor required

To provide support for students and successful applicants will need to:

Have a calm and supportive manner
Relate well to young people
Be a good team member
Have a good standard of education
Level 2/GCSE maths

Previous experience useful but not essential.

Hours : 40 per week [8.30 to 5.00pm]
Monday to Friday term time only

Pay range:: New Academy Scheme Salaries
Scale 3 £14,169—£16,064 pa fte

Please send a copy of your C.V. to the school or email
jenniferspooner@marloweacademy.co.uk

Enquiries or visits to the Academy are welcome.
Please contact Jennifer Spooner on direct telephone number 01843 598550 or email to address above .

We look forward to hearing from you.
The closing date for post: Friday 6th November 2009

Successful applicants will be subject to an Enhanced Criminal Disclosure

Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School

Maidstone Road Rochester Kent ME1 3EL
Tel: 01634 844008 Email: harrisonj@sirjosephwilliamson.medway.sch.uk

A Voluntary Controlled School specialising in Mathematics, Computing and Humanities
An 11-18 Boys' Grammar School of 1180 students including 300 in the co-educational Sixth Form
'OUTSTANDING' Ofsted November 2008 – "a buzz of excitement pervades the school"

Part–time Teacher of ICT

This post would suit a qualified teacher or someone with aspirations to become a teacher. The school is well resourced and its ICT specialism enables every student to leave with an ICT qualification.

If you would like an opportunity to work in a lively and forward-looking department please contact the Headteacher's PA, Mrs Jacqueline Harrison, 01634 844008 or visit our website www.sirjosephwilliamson.medway.sch.uk where further details and an application form can be downloaded.

This is an excellent opportunity to join a successful, over-subscribed selective school. Behaviour was found to be "exemplary" by Ofsted. The School has recently achieved a Medway Council Gold Award in recognition of excellence in continuing professional development.

We are committed to the safeguarding and wellbeing of children and any offer of employment will be subject to a satisfactory Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau check.

Closing date for applications – Wednesday, 4th November 2009

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Teachers wanted

Local Teachers for Local Schools

We have 100's of permanent positions throughout Kent for qualified teachers, teaching assistants and school support staff.

Email kent.sussex@timeplan.net or call 01732 373340

Quality Mark
department for children, schools and families
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The smart way to find a job in the County

With campuses in Ashford, Folkestone and Dover, South Kent College offers a wide range of courses from Entry Level to Level 7 and caters for over 10,000 students of all ages. We currently have the following opportunity at our Folkestone campus:

Lecturer – Public Services

Ref: T1405

29.6 hours per week

You will act as course leader, teaching a range of Public Service courses to a variety of students of all abilities and ages. You will have a Level 3 qualification in an appropriate subject, a teaching qualification, or the willingness to achieve this upon appointment, and experience of working in a teaching or training environment.

You will have recent and relevant experience of working in a uniformed service, or comparable teaching experience of the subject. Above all, you will have a commitment to student success.

For further information or an application pack please contact the Human Resources Department on 0845 207 8222 (24 hour answerphone), email: humanresources@southkent.ac.uk or visit www.southkent.ac.uk

The closing date for receipt of applications is 5pm Monday 2nd November 2009.

All posts are subject to a disclosure check by the Criminal Records Bureau. We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expect all employees to share this commitment. Applications are welcome from suitably qualified candidates regardless of ethnicity, gender, age, disability, sexuality or religion.

South Kent College
ASHFORD • DOVER • FOLKESTONE

Marlowe Academy

Stirling Way, Ramsgate, CT12 6NB

Tele : 01843 593326

Applications are invited for the post of
Instrumental Tutor (Music)
required to support the Music Department in the delivery of tuition in the following areas:

Drums
Piano

Applications are welcome from graduates of music or music education, and from candidates who hold other professional qualifications in music. Successful candidates will teach individual lessons or in small groups of 2/3 pupils. Lessons are 30 minute periods and successful candidates will be expected to address the individual needs of pupils.

Instructors will be expected to teach from beginner level and should develop and lead small ensembles for public performances.

Instructors will be employed on a peripatetic basis, meeting demand as required.

CVs and letters of application by post to the address above
FAO: Jennifer Spooner HR Manager or via jenniferspooner@marloweacademy.co.uk. **You should state the post you are applying for,** your principal instrument and your suitability for such a post.
Appointments are subject to an enhanced CRB check.

Closing date for applications: *6th November 2009*

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or email
enquiry.ers@capita.uk

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Hugh Christie Technology College

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Tonbridge, Kent TN10 4PU

Examinations Administrator

Required immediately, 20 hours per week, term-time and results days only. To work alongside the Examinations Manager and assist with the administration of all examinations within the centre. Invigilation duties will be required.
Salary range scale A £13,291-£16,218 (FTE) pro-rata.

Invigilation Staff

Casual staff required for a minimum of 40 hours per annum invigilation work. Need in particular to be available January, May & June. Salary negotiable.

More information at www.hughchristie.kent.sch.uk
Alternatively contact Jenny Rutherford on 01732 353544 ext.240.
Closing date 30th October 2009

JOB OPPORTUNITIES AT SHEPWAY DISTRICT COUNCIL

OPERATIONS OFFICER

PROPERTY SERVICES

£25,620 - £30,210 + Car Allowance

An exciting opportunity has arisen for a surveyor with a broad knowledge of surveying and property management.

For more details and an application pack, download at www.shepway.gov.uk or email jobs@shepway.gov.uk, alternatively call our 24 hour answer phone service on 01303 853481.

Closing date for completed applications is Friday 6 November 2009

Shepway District Council
Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue
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www.shepway.gov.uk

Folkestone Hythe & Romney Marsh Shepway District Council www.shepway.gov.uk

Shepway District Council is an Equal Opportunities Employer and welcomes applications irrespective of race, colour, age, sex or disability.

To advertise in this section
01303 817040

THE THOMAS AVELING SCHOOL

(A Foundation Technology College)

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Arethusa Rd, Rochester, Kent ME1 2UW Headteacher: Mr P Jackson, BSc

Tel: 01634 844809 Fax: 01634 818385

Email: office@thomasaveling.co.uk Website: www.thomasaveling.co.uk/jobs

Teaching Assistant - inclusion project

Part Time term time only (13 hours per week);
Friday 7 hours each week plus additional day (tba) of 6 hours
Salary: NJC Scale D2 point 12 - Point 21 (presently £15,039 - £19,126) pro-rata
Start date: November 2009

An opportunity has arisen for a pro-active, energetic and robust but patient individual to join the associate staff at this popular secondary school.

This is a challenging but rewarding opportunity to work with vulnerable students on an innovative inclusion project that involves student participation in a range of sporting activities and community projects away from the school site in order to assist them re-focus and improve attainment levels. This will take place on Friday of each week.

In addition to this one further day to be agreed will be spent on site supporting students within the classroom environment.

Please visit www.thomasaveling.co.uk for further details of the post and an application form.

Closing date for applications: Friday 30th October 2009

Short-listed candidates only will be contacted for interview which will take place on Thursday 5th November 2009.

The Thomas Aveling School is: - an Equal opportunities Employer. - committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all students and an enhanced CRB check will be required for all successful applicants.

TERM TIME TEACHERS

TEACHERS AND COVER SUPERVISORS URGENTLY REQUIRED

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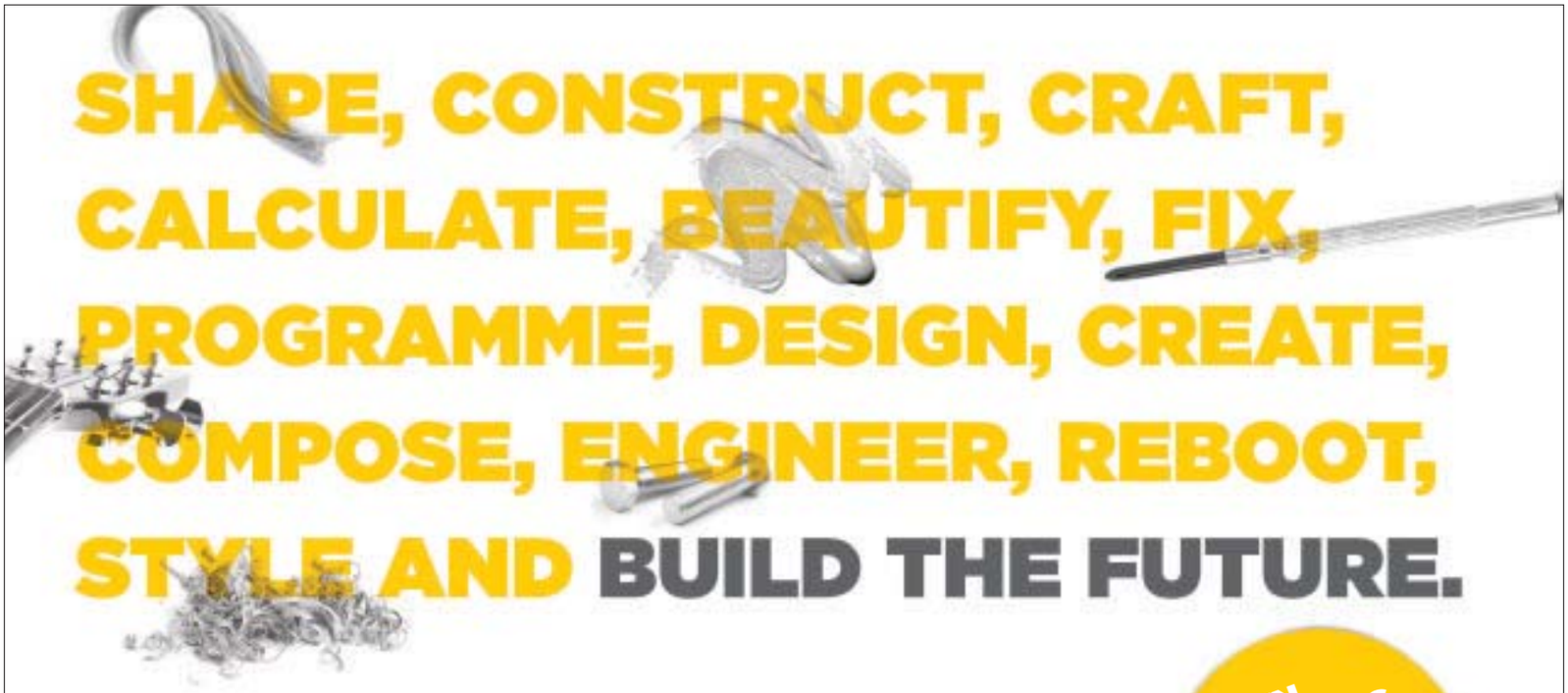

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Whatever your skill, trade or talent, you could join South Kent College as a Supply Lecturer. From campuses in Ashford, Dover and Folkestone, we provide learning and training opportunities to over 10,000 local people every year. Helping us are skilled individuals like you, who lecture part-time on everything from hairdressing to catering, plumbing to child care. So, perhaps you're self-employed with some extra time to spare. Maybe you're retired, and you'd like to give something back. Whatever your background, we'd be interested to talk to you at one of our Recruitment Open Evenings. For details visit **www.skcrecruitment.co.uk**

OPEN EVENINGS
5pm - 8pm in FOLKESTONE on November 10th and ASHFORD on November 17th

SKC South Kent College
ASHFORD › DOVER › FOLKESTONE

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A selection of the 100s of Local Jobs online

Accountancy

Trainee Accountant

Gravesend
Salary: Circa £15,500 - £28,000
Closing Date: 26 October 2009
Transformation & Finance Financial Services Trainee Accountant Salary: Circa £15,500 - £28,000 Gravesham is a diverse borough facing exciting challenges in the future. We are at the heart of the Thames Gateway and on the brink of massive growth and development, so if you've got vision, imagination and ambition, there's no better place to progress your career. This is a career grade post that presents an exciting opportunity for the right candidate to increase their experience and responsibilities, as well as providing the opportunity to study for the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) professional accountancy qualification. Reporting to the Principal Accountant (Technical & Systems) you will assist in the day to day work of the Council's financial services department including assisting in setting the annual budget for the Council, closure of the annual accounts, production of the annual Financial Statement and assisting in technical accountancy support and computer system administration for the finance section and the Council as a whole.
We pride ourselves on providing a high quality financial management and advice service to designated budget holders and you will therefore be committed to continuation of this service, as well as bringing fresh ideas for improvements wherever possible. You will need excellent communication skills and the ability to work to challenging deadlines, as well as possessing an understanding of the importance of the accountancy function to an organisation such as the Council. Experience of using Microsoft Word and Excel is essential, and you must have a customer focused and flexible approach to delivering financial information. Ref: TA/SB Closing date: 26 October 2009 For an application form and job description please contact: Customer Services, Gravesham Borough Council, Civic Centre, Windmill Street, Gravesend, Kent DA12 1AU. Telephone: 01474 33 70 00 Email: customer.services@gravesham.gov.uk Website: www.gravesham.gov.uk/jobs Gravesham Borough Council is working towards equal opportunities and welcomes applications from all sections of the community. The council also operates a no smoking policy.
To apply/more information:
Gravesham Borough Council
Quoting Job Ref: TA/SB
Tel: 01474 33 70 00
Email customer.services@gravesham.gov.uk

Administration, Secretarial, PA

Administrator

Canterbury
Salary: £12,000 - £14,000 pa
Administrator required for a training company based in Womenswold, just outside Canterbury. Duties to include telephone, filing and general administration. Monday-Friday 8:30am to 5:00pm. Please telephone Jeanette on 01227 831840 or via email jeanette.saunders@amactraining.co.uk for further information.
To apply/more information:
AMACSports Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 833000
Email jeanette.saunders@amactraining.co.uk

Administrative/ Reception Positions

Medway
Salary: TBC
Closing Date: 4th November 2009
DMC healthcare is one of the leading providers of high quality Primary Care services across 12 sites and for over 40,000 patients. We have a dedicated team of GPs, Nurses, Admin Staff and external consultants helping us deliver excellent care. We operate 8am till 8pm 365 days a year at a number of practices in the Kent area. We are offering full and part-time positions. We are looking for dedicated and hard working candidates to fill this position. Ideal candidates should have the following: * Minimum of 1 year previous administrative experience and working * knowledge of good office practice/ reception work * Computer literate, good telephone manner and team player with a desire to deliver excellence in customer care * Full UK driving license * Previous NHS experience an advantages.
To apply/more information:
Gene Fitzpatrick
DMC Healthcare
Quoting Job Ref: KOS
Tel: 0207 635 1030
Email recruitment@dmchealthcare.co.uk

Catering, Hospitality

Live in Bar person/s

Dover
Salary: salary negotiable
Require Live in Bar person/s, Part-time, salary negotiable.
To apply/more information:
Paul Molloy
Bricklayers Arms
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01304 830 323
Email paulmolloy2009@hotmail.co.uk

Construction, Architecture, Surveyors

OPERATIONS OFFICER

Folkestone
Salary: £25,620 - £30,210
Closing Date: Friday 6 November 2009
OPERATIONS OFFICER PROPERTY SERVICES £25,620 - £30,210 + Car Allowance. An exciting opportunity has arisen for a surveyor with a broad knowledge of surveying and property management. For more details and an application pack, download at www.shepway.gov.uk or email jobs@shepway.gov.uk, alternatively call our 24 hour answer phone service on 01303 853481. Closing date for completed applications is Friday 6 November 2009.
To apply/more information:
Shepway District Council
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01303 853481
Email jobs@shepway.gov.uk

Finding staff
24-7
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To advertise in this section or online
01303 817040

Bricklayers and Hoddies

Dover
Salary: TBA
Bricklayers & Hoddies required for site in Dover for 19th October. Must have current CSCS card, also CRB checks will be required. Please call Kim - 07538 435741.
To apply/more information:
Kim
JKS Brickwork Contractors Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 07538 435741
Email kim@jksgroup.co.uk

Education, Teacher, School

Resistant Materials Teacher

Dartford
Salary: £120
Resistant materials teacher needed for an immediate start through to the end of the academic year at a North West Kent school with many good features. Through the hard work of students, staff, parents and governors, have built a strong reputation as a place of learning for all. Achieving Specialist College status in 2006. Position is suitable for qualified teachers, NQT, British or overseas trained teachers. All applicants must be fully qualified to teach and have recent experience working with children. If interested please contact Britny Goulet on 01732 373 340 or at britny.goulet@htimeplan.net.
To apply/more information:
Britny Goulet
Timeplan Education Group
Quoting Job Ref: 09-090630009
Tel: 01732 373 340
Email
britny.goulet@timeplan.net

Music Teacher

Ashford
Salary: £120
Music teacher needed to cover a maternity leave beginning on 2nd November though until 7th June. Teacher will be required to teach up to GCSE level as well as BTEC at a large over subsribed mixed comprehensive Medway school with good management and resources. The staff at the school are very supportive and all new and overseas staff have a mentor appointed to them. All applicants must be qualified to teach and have recent experience working with children. The post is suitable for experienced teaches as well as NQT's; British or overseas trained teachers. If interested please contact Britny Goulet on 01732 373 340 or by email at britny.goulet@timeplan.net.
To apply/more information:
Britny Goulet
Timeplan Education Group
Quoting Job Ref: 09-090925003
Tel: 01732 373 340
Email
britny.goulet@timeplan.net

Teaching Assistant - inclusion project

Rochester
Salary: £15,039 - £19,126 pro-rata
Closing Date: Friday 30th October 2009
THE THOMAS AVELING SCHOOL (A Foundation Technology College) Arethusa Road, Rochester, Kent. ME1 2UW. Headteacher: Mr P Jackson BSc Tel: 01634 844809. Fax: 01634 818385 Email: office@thomasaveling.co.uk. Teaching Assistant - inclusion project Part Time term time only (13 hours per week); Friday 7 hours each week plus additional day (tba) of 6 hours Salary: NJC Scale D2 point 12 - Point 21 (presently £15,039 - £19,126) pro-rata Start date: November 2009. An opportunity has arisen for a pro-active, energetic and robust but patient individual to join the associate staff at this popular secondary school. This is a challenging but rewarding opportunity to work with vulnerable students on an innovative inclusion project that involves student participation in a range of sporting activities and community projects away from the school site in order to assist them re-focus and improve attainment levels. This will take place on Friday of each week. In addition to this one further day to be agreed will be spent on site supporting students within the classroom environment. Please visit www.thomasaveling.co.uk for further details of the post and an application form. Closing date for applications: Friday 30th October 2009 Short-listed candidates only will be contacted for interview which will take place on Thursday 5th November 2009. The Thomas Aveling School is: - an Equal opportunities Employer. - committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all students and an enhanced CRB check will be required for all successful applicants.
To apply/more information:
Thomas Aveling School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 844809
Email
office@thomasaveling.co.uk

Part–time Teacher of ICT

Rochester
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: Wednesday, 4th November 2009
Part–time Teacher of ICT. This post would suit a qualified teacher or someone with aspirations to become a teacher. The school is well resourced and its ICT specialism enables every student to leave with an ICT qualification. If you would like an opportunity to work in a lively and forward-looking department please contact the Headteacher's PA, Mrs Jacqueline Harrison, 01634 844008 or visit our website www.sirjosephwilliamson.medway.sch.uk where further details and an application form can be downloaded. This is an excellent opportunity to join a successful, over-subscribed selective school. Behaviour was found to be "exemplary" by Ofsted. The School has recently achieved a Medway Council Gold Award in recognition of excellence in continuing professional development. We are committed to the safeguarding and wellbeing of children and any offer of employment will be subject to a satisfactory Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau check. Closing date for applications - Wednesday, 4th November 2009.
To apply/more information:
Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 844008
Email
harrisonj@sirjosephwilliamson.medway.sch.uk

Lecturer - Public Services

Folkestone
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 2nd November 2009.
With campuses in Ashford, Folkestone and Dover, South Kent College offers a wide range of courses from Entry Level to Level 7 and caters for over 10,000 students of all ages.We currently have the following opportunity at our Folkestone campus: Lecturer - Public Services Ref: T1405 29.6 hours per week. You will act as course leader, teaching a range of Public Service courses to a variety of students of all abilities and ages. You will have a Level 3 qualification in an appropriate subject, a teaching qualification, or the willingness to achieve this upon appointment, and experience of working in a teaching or training environment. You will have recent and relevant experience of working in a uniformed service, or comparable teaching experience of the subject. Above all, you will have a commitment to student success. For further information or an application pack please contact the Human Resources Department on 0845 207 8222 (24 hour answerphone), email: humanresources@southkent.ac.uk or visit www.southkent.ac.uk The closing date for receipt of applications is 5pm Monday 2nd November 2009. All posts are subject to a disclosure check by the Criminal Records Bureau. We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expect all employees to share this commitment. Applications are welcome from suitably qualified candidates regardless of ethnicity, gender, age, disability, sexuality or religion.
To apply/more information:
South Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: T1405
Tel: 0845 207 8222
Email humanresources@southkent.ac.uk

Learning Mentor required

Ramsgate
Salary: Scale 3 £14,169 - £16,064 pa fte
Closing Date: 6th November 2009
To provide support for students and successful applicants will need to: * Have a calm and supportive manner * Relate well to young people * Be a good team member * Have a good standard of education * Level 2/GCSE maths Previous experience useful but not essential. Hours : 40 per week [8.30 to 5.00pm] Monday to Friday term time only.
To apply/more information:
Jennifer Spooner
Marlowe Academy
Quoting Job Ref: KOS
Tel: 01843 598 550
Email jenniferspooner@marloweacademy.co.uk

Thinking of Returning to Teaching?

Kent
Salary: tba
Closing Date: 26th November 2009
If you are a qualified teacher and thinking of resuming your career after a break, Kent County Council is running Return to Teaching courses early 2010 at Canterbury High School, designed to enable you to to make a successful return to the classroom. You are invited to attend our Open Morning on 12th November 2009 at 10:00 at the Ashford Holiday Inn, Central. Canterbury Road Ashford, TN25 8QQ.
To apply/more information:
Rajmund Brent
Kent County Council
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 203800
Email
rajmund.brent@kent.gov.uk

Examinations Administrator

Tonbridge
Salary: £13,291 - £16,218 pro-rata.
Closing Date: 30th October 2009
Hugh Christie Technology College White Cottage Road Tonbridge, Kent TN10 4PU Examinations Administrator Required immediately, 20 hours per week, term-time and results days only. To work alongside the Examinations Manager and assist with the administration of all examinations within the centre. Invigilation duties will be required. Salary range scale A £13,291-£16,218 (FTE) pro-rata. Invigilation Staff Casual staff required for a minimum of 40 hours per annum invigilation work. Need in particular to be available January, May & June. Salary negotiable. More information at www.hughchristie.kent.sch.uk Alternatively contact Jenny Rutherford on 01732 353544 ext.240. Closing date 30th October 2009.
To apply/more information:
Hugh Christie Technology College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01732 353544 ext. 240
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Invigilation Staff

Tonbridge
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 30th October 2009
Hugh Christie Technology College White Cottage Road Tonbridge, Kent TN10 4PU Invigilation Staff Casual staff required for a minimum of 40 hours per annum invigilation work. Need in particular to be available January, May & June. Salary negotiable. More information at www.hughchristie.kent.sch.uk Alternatively contact Jenny Rutherford on 01732 353544 ext.240. Closing date 30th October 2009.
To apply/more information:
Hugh Christie Technology College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01732 353544 ext.240
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

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To advertise in this section or online
01303 817040

Customer Services Advisor P/T

Maidstone
Salary: £17k - £18k pro rata
Closing Date: Friday 6th November 2009
Customer Services Advisor P/T £17k - £18k pro rata 2.5 days per week. Working for Kent's renowned music provider, Kent Music, this is an excellent opportunity for an administration orientated person to work in the music and education sector. Please call 01622 358435 for an application form. More information on Kent Music can be found on: www.kent-music.com Deadline for applications Friday 6th November 2009 Interviews will be held w/b 16th November 2009.
To apply/more information:
Kent Music School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 358435
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Instrumental Tutor (Music)

Ramsgate
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 6th November 2009
Applications are invited for the post of Instrumental Tutor (Music) required to support the Music Department in the delivery of tuition in the following areas: Drums Piano Applications are welcome from graduates of music or music education, and from candidates who hold other professional qualifications in music. Successful candidates will teach individual lessons or in small groups of 2/3 pupils. Lessons are 30 minute periods and successful candidates will be expected to address the individual needs of pupils. Instructors will be expected to teach from beginner level and should develop and lead small ensembles for public performances. Instructors will be employed on a peripatetic basis, meeting demand as required. CVs and letters of application by post to the address above FAO: Jennifer Spooner HR Manager or via jenniferspooner@marloweacademy.co.uk. You should state the post you are applying for, your principal instrument and your suitability for such a post. Appointments are subject to an enhanced CRB check. Closing date for applications: 6th November 2009.
To apply/more information:
Marlowe Academy
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email jenniferspooner@marloweacademy.co.uk

Estate Agency, Property

Full-time Estate Agency and Lettings Staff Required

Kent
Salary: tba
Following a successful 2009 we have a number of new positions available from Sales and Lettings Consultants to Senior Consultants / Valuers. These positions are located in the Mid Kent Region. So if you looking to start a new career or even embark on a career change, this could be your opportunity. Your Move is a progressive, people focussed company dedicated to achieving the highest levels of customer service. We are looking for like minded candidates who are highly driven, self motivated, enthusiastic and ambitious. Experience within the industry is an advantage, although full training will be provided. The positions are diverse incorporating residential property sales and lettings and the successful candidates will have career prospects. A full driving licence is required. Candidates wishing to apply should write or e-mail enclosing full CV with contact details to: Oliver Blake - Area Director Your Move 93 Commercial Road Paddock Wood Kent TN12 6DS.
To apply/more information:
Oliver Blake
Your Move
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email oliver.blake2@your-move.co.uk

Leisure, Tourism, Travel

SANTAS, ELVES AND GROTTO SUPERVISORS

Kent
Salary: TBA

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WANTED - SANTAS, ELVES AND GROTTO SUPERVISORS
Dreamtime Events is recruiting for the country's leading Santas and Elves to spend the festive season in our magical grottos. If you love the Christmas season, are friendly, approachable, dedicated and hard working, you'll fit in perfectly. We have sites across the UK with Full or Part-time vacancies available: Bluewater, Brent Cross, Bromley, Watford, Tunbridge Wells, Camberley, Tonbridge. You will be rewarded with a high weekly income and a fun working environment for the Christmas Season. To be considered for the role of Santa you will either need to hold a clean CRB check no older than 12 months or be willing for us to apply for one on your behalf. For more information or to apply online: www.dreamtimeevents.com Or contact us on: Tel: 01727 767 258 Fax: 01727 898 334 E-Mail: office@dreamtimeevents.com.
To apply/more information: Dreamtime Events
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01727 767 258
Email office@dreamtimeevents.com

Class leaders

Faversham
Salary: TBA
Interested In Health & Wellness? Class leaders wanted for Arriba! Wellness Clubs £1,000-£2,500 per month F/T or P/T Full Training Available Call Sara on 01795 532201 www.arriba-classleaders.co.uk.
To apply/more information: Sara Jane Marmont
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01795 532201
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Management, Senior Positions

Commercial Window Site Manager

Kent
Salary: TBA
Commercial Window Site Manager You will be responsible for overseeing installations of PVCu and aluminium products on refurbishment and new build contracts across the South of England. This role involves arranging and taking deliveries, liasing with Constructors, RLO's and the public, organising the workforce and inspecting completed works for handovers. Attention to detail, enthusiasm and organisation skills are important. Experience is preferred but is not essential. NVQ training will be provided as will as a company car, pension and attractive salary package. Please apply by CV and covering letter to the Contracts Department at 140 Newington Road, Ramsgate, Kent CT12 6PP. We are an Equal Opportunities Employer.
To apply/more information: Piper Windows
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Motor Trade, Driver

General Assistant

Canterbury
Salary: £6.00 ph
TRUE GRIP DRIVER TRAINING LTD (Near Canterbury) require a General Assistant £6.00 ph Saturday and Sunday 8am to 5pm (approx) and some weekdays For more information please call 01227 363 323 or email kevin.cawood@truegripoffroad.co.uk.
To apply/more information: True Grip Driver Training
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 363 323
Email kevin.cawood@truegripoffroad.co.uk

Not for profit, Charities

Youth fundraising co-ordinator

Canterbury
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 11th November 2009
An exciting opportunity has arisen for the above post designed to focus on involving young people in fundraising within Pilgrims Hospices. The Youth Fundraising Co-ordinator will be responsible for the development of fundraising and volunteering within schools, colleges and universities. The successful applicant will have experience of community fundraising, public speaking and have excellent communication skills. The applicant will be personable, approachable and able to relate well to people at all levels. Additionally they will be IT literate with excellent planning skills and an eye for detail, have access to own transport and be willing to work flexibly with minimum supervision. For a full job description and application form please download from www.pilgrimshospice.org.
To apply/more information: Pilgrims Hospice
Quoting Job Ref: KOS
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Nursing, Medicine, Care Work

Carer

Herne Bay
Salary: Starting salary £6.24-£6.86 p.h
HMT Care is dedicated to the care of people diagnosed within the spectrum of neuro-disability, particularly HUNTINGTON'S DISEASE. We provide an holistic and person-centred approach to care and require dedicated and committed staff to work with us. Duties will include personal care and day-to-day assistance and support of residents. A competitive salary, promotion prospects, accredited specialist training, together with NVQ opportunities, is our commitment to you. Previous experience and qualifications are an advantage, but are not essential. Part-time and full-time hours are available. Also part-time Nights. To request an application form and information please call weekdays between 10am and 4pm.
To apply/more information: Nana or Paul
HMT Care Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 742992
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Vacancies filled fast online with
JobsforKent.co.uk
To advertise in this section or online
01303 817040

Assistant Manager

Folkestone
Salary: TBA
Assistant Manager Required For Residential Care Home In Folkestone We are looking to recruit an enthusiastic and committed person. Must have Minimum NVQ Level 3 Qualification, and Experience in the role above. Please call Miss Julia Carter (Home Manager) on 01303 254019 Subject to satisfactory CRB Check.
To apply/more information: Cumbria House Residential Home
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01303 254019
Email cumbriahouse@ashwoodhealthcare.co.uk

Support Workers

Medway
Salary: TBA
Due to continuing growth we are recruiting Support Workers required to work in Medway Towns and Maidstone Hours: full-time, part-time, as and when basis. Car driver with own transport essential. Presland Care provides quality support to enable people to remain independent and live in their own homes. For an application form please contact Jane or Rita on 01634 673333 Email: info@preslandcare.co.uk. We are actively encouraging equal opportunities. Successful applications will be dependent on a clear enhanced CRB check and two satisfactory references.
To apply/more information: Presland Care
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 673333
Email info@preslandcare.co.uk

Registered Nurse

Romney Marsh
Salary: £146.90 per night
Bethany Lodge, Dymchurch Requires. Registered Nurse Friday Night duty To join our team in caring for 24 physically disabled adults. £146.90 per night 8pm to 8am. Please tel: 01303 872289 for further details and application form.
To apply/more information: Bethany Lodge/Bethany House
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01303 872289
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

FULL/PART TIME R.G. NURSE

Canterbury
Salary: TBA
HIGHVIEW OAST CARE HOME Tel: 01304 813333 Family orientated Care Home in wonderful country setting has a vacancy for a FULL/PART TIME R.G. NURSE. We offer excellent educational opportunities and possibility of promotion within the company. Please telephone Sheelagh Sanford for more details.
To apply/more information: Sheelagh Sanford
High View Oast Nursing Home
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01304 813333
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Local Carers - Awake Night Shift

Herne Bay
Salary: TBA
Small Residential Care Home in Herne Bay Requires Local Carers to work Awake Night Shift Thursday Hrs 8.30pm to 8.30am · Good Rates of Pay · In-House Training Provided · NVQ Training Available · Friendly Atmosphere Please call (01227) 374633 or 362312 Email: hernebay@home-service.co.uk. All applications are subject to CRB Disclosure.
To apply/more information: Krystalgate Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 374633
Email hernebay@home-service.co.uk

COMMUNITY SUPPORT WORKERS

Herne Bay
Salary: TBA
COMMUNITY SUPPORT WORKERS. Are you looking for a challenging but rewarding job that can make a real difference to people's lives. This job entails supporting our client's in their own homes by providing personal care, domestic duties, shopping calls and many more daily tasks. Flexible working hours Days, evenings, weekends Available. Excellent rates of pay. In house training and NVQ's available. Call today on Tel:01227 362312 for Herne bay & Whitstable Area. Or Email: hernebay@home-service.co.uk All applications are subject to CRB disclosure.
To apply/more information: Home Service Complete Care
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 362312
Email hernebay@home-service.co.uk

Senior Care Assistant

Faversham
Salary: TBA
Senior Care Assistant Required To work in Faversham NVQ3 or working towards would be an advantage. Duties will include supervise shift and carry out all tasks with assistance provided, necessary to run a family type care home. To promote healthcare and well being of the residence. Liaise with doctors, care managers and other professional colleagues as required and. To supervise all staff in the performance of their duties. Maintenance of all records as instructed from time to time to assist with healthcare arrangements for residence and exercise control and admin of all medication. For further details please tel. 01795 532629 between 10am to 4pm.
To apply/more information: Carnalea Residential Home
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01795 532629
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Healthcare Assistantsand Registered Nurses

Tonbridge
Salary: TBA
Healthcare Assistants& Registered Nurses Day & Night Duties Available (Own Transport Required) To provide care for people in their own homes Hours available NOW Sevenoaks, Tonbridge andTunbridge Wells areas Local Hospital Shift workalso available • Subject to satisfactory Enhanced CRB • Flexible Hours • Subsidised Training • Contribution towards Mileage Please contact us at either our Tunbridge Wells or Kings Hill office Bayada Nurses Ltd Suite 37, Calverley House, Calverley Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 2TU 01890 704215 • Email: info@bayada.co.uk • www.bayada.co.uk.
To apply/more information: Bayada Nurses Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01890 704215
Email info@bayada.co.uk

Registered Nurses

Canterbury
Salary: Salary negotiable
NICHOLAS JAMES CARE HOMES Ltd Dale Road Southfleet Kent DA13 9NX Registered Nurses required by the above company for homes in the Canterbury, Whitstable, Herne Bay area. Salary negotiable. For further details please contact: Tina Thomas Business Development Manager. Email: tina.thomas@njch.co.uk Tel: 07939 045304.
To apply/more information: Nicholas James Care Homes Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 07939 045304
Email tina.thomas@njch.co.uk

Children's Support Worker

Canterbury
Salary: £21,306 - £27,573
Closing Date: 30 October 2009
Children's Support Worker - Sunlight Project £21,306 - £27,573 + ESSENTIAL CARUSERALLOWANCEOFUPTO £1,170 MATERNITY COVER FOR SIX MONTHS • 37 HOURS PERWEEK BASED IN CANTERBURY COVERING THE SWALE AREA KCA (UK) is an expanding and vibrant organisation providing a wide range of high quality and innovative specialist services in the drug, alcohol andmental health sectors. KCA Young Persons' Services provide specialist substance misuse help for children, young people, their families and carers. The Sunlight Project, funded by the Big Lottery Fund, offers support to children from substance misusing families in Swale, Dover and Thanet. We require a support worker to deliver our group work programmes aimed at 7 - 13 year old children who are affected by someone else's misuse of substances. The groups promote emotional and psychological well-being through structured sessions. The project works closely with Children's Social Services, schools and other children's services. You will need experience of working with children and delivering group work interventions. Ideally you will also have a sound knowledge of substance misuse issues. Application forms and job descriptions can be downloaded from www.kca.org.uk or call 01795 590635. Please quote reference number 611. Closing date: 30 October 2009. Interview date: 10 November 2009. KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all and welcomes applications from people with experience of substance use or who have had previous problems with substance misuse. Charity no: 292824.
To apply/more information: KCA (UK)
Quoting Job Ref: 611
Tel: 01795 590635
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Support Workers

Medway
Salary: From £13,250
Is this the job for you? ACH is a fast-growing organisation, developing new, high-quality residential homes for adults with Learning Disabilities. Due to our continued growth we now require for our homes in STROOD • BOBBING • GRAVESEND We also require BANK WORKERS For an application pack please visit our website at www.achuk.com. Alternatively e-mail louise.burrows@achuk.com or contact Human Resources on 0208 502 8871.
To apply/more information: Louise Burrows
ACH Care Homes Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 0208 502 8871
Email louise.burrows@achuk.com

Training Centre Assistants

Rochester
Salary: £20,159 pa
Closing Date: 30th October 2009
Training Centre Assistants Medway Secure Training Centre, Rochester £20,159 pa | 40 hours (Rotating shifts) Life can be an uphill struggle for young people who have been sentenced or remanded into custody. There are many hurdles they need to overcome to reach a brighter future. They are often angry, scared, confused or even destructive. They may not want to communicate. They may not know how to communicate. As part of our committed team, your energetic and enthusiastic attitude will gain the respect of our young people. It will help them take stock of their lives, adopt a more positive approach and learn to respect others. Working directly with the young people, helping them learn social and life skills, motivating them to complete their daily tasks and ensuring that the centre rules are followed are just a few of the things you'll do in this busy and varied role. You will need to be non-judgmental and compassionate with a firm but fair approach. Helping to build self esteem, you'll help to guide our young people to a fresh start and release their true potential. Think you've got what it takes to make a real difference? Call us now on: 01634 823322 Monday to Friday, 9.00am to 4.30pm quoting: KSTC10. Closing date: 30th October 2009. Assessment day: 12th November 2009. Please note that these vacancies are subject to a 10 year checkable history, an enhanced CRB check and the strict vetting standards set by Rebound and the Secretary of State for the Home Office. Rebound is a part of G4S Care & Justice Services (UK) Limited.
To apply/more information: Rebound
Quoting Job Ref: KSTC10
Tel: 01634 823322
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

RESIDENTIAL SUPPORT WORKERS

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Email john.halliday@barrettshonda.com

HIGHWAYS - District of Ashford

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(MUNDAY BOIS ROAD, EGERTON) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of carriageway repairs to areas of subsidence and structural failure, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Munday Bois Road, Egerton, between the junctions with Rock Hill Road and Newland Green Lane, on or after 26 October 2009, for an estimated period of 3 days or until the works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Rock Hill Road, Stone Hill Road, New Road, Egerton Road, Forge Hill, Smarden Road, The Pinnock and Munday Bois Road.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(B2067 RUCKINGE ROAD, BILSINGTON) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of repairs to areas of carriageway failure and subsidence, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on the B2067 Ruckinge Road, Bilsington, between the junctions with Marsh Road, Ruckinge and Ashford Road, Bilsington, on or after 26 October 2009, for an estimated period of 3 days or until the works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via B2067 Ruckinge Road, B2067 Hamstreet Road, B2067 Ruckinge Road, Cock Lane, B2067 The Street, Ashford Road, Hamstreet Road, Capel Road, Stone Cross Road, Ashford Road and Ruckinge Road.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(TRINITY ROAD, ASHFORD) (PROHIBITION OF RIGHT HAND TURNS) ORDER 2009 ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

Notice is hereby given that Kent County Council has made an Order under Sections 1 and 2 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the effect of which has prohibited the right turn movement from Trinity Road, Ashford into Lower Pemberton Road.

The purpose of the scheme is to maintain road safety and to assist maintenance of traffic flow in the area, following the construction of the new Eureka Park Office Development on Lower Pemberton Road. An alternative route for access to the development is available via the roundabout 100 metres to the south.

A copy of the proposed Order which shall come into operation on Monday 26th October 2009, an explanatory statement and a map showing the lengths of roads affected may be inspected during normal office hours at the Kent County Council, Invicta House, Maidstone, Kent, ME15 1XX and Ashford Borough Council offices, Civic Centre, Tannery Lane, Ashford, TN23 1PL.

Anyone may, by application to the High Court within 6 weeks of the date of publication of this Notice, challenge the validity of the Orders or of any provision contained in them on the grounds that it is not within the powers conferred by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, or of any instrument made there under, or that there has been a failure to comply with any statutory requirement in relation to the Order.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(GRIBBLE BRIDGE LANE, BIDDENDEN) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of carriageway repairs, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Gribble Bridge Lane, Biddenden, between the junctions with Benenden Road and Bugglesden Road, on or after 11 November 2009, for an estimated period of one day or until the works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Benenden Road, Tenterden Road and Bugglesden Road.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(FIELD MILL ROAD, EGERTON) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of the installation of a new electrical supply, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Field Mill Road, Egerton between the junctions with Stonebridge Green Road and Coach Road, on or after 9 November 2009, for an estimated period of 5 days or until the works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Stonebridge Green Road and Coach Road.

HIGHWAYS - District of Canterbury

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(CHURCH LANE, WHITSTABLE) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because gully cleansing works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on the whole length of Church Lane, Whitstable using a rolling road closure on or after 28 October 2009 for an estimated period of 3 days between the hours of 9:00am and 3:00pm or until the works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Faversham Road, Joy Lane, A290 Borstal Hill, A2990 Thanet Way.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Dartford

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
JUNCTION OF SCHOOL LANE AND SANDY LANE (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic 10m up School Lane from its junction with Sandy Lane and 5m up Sandy Lane from its junction with School Lane.

The Order will become effective on 26th October 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 3 days. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: Southfleet Road, Betsham Road, Park Corner Road and Sandy Lane.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate the completion of remedial works on a defective carriageway patch.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
CARLTON AVENUE, STONE (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Carlton Avenue, Stone between its junctions with London Road to Hayes Road.

The Order will become effective on 26th October 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned commence on 30th October 2009 and planned to last 5 days. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: London Road, St James Lane and Hayes Road.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate resurfacing works.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
COMMON LANE, WILMINGTON (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Common Lane, Wilmington between its junctions with High Road/Broad Lane to its junction with Parsons Lane.

The Order will become effective on 26th October 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 1 week. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: High Road, Church Hill, Hawley Road, Oakfield Lane.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate reconstruction works to a damaged speed ramp and speed cushion.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
SQUIRES WAY, JOYDENS WOOD (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Squires Way, Joydens Wood between its junctions with Summerhouse Drive to Woodside Drive.

The Order will become effective on 9th November 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 2 days between 08.00 – 17.00 hours. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Woodside Drive, Birchwood Drive, Birchwood Road and Summerhouse Drive.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate thin surfacing works.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
HYTHE STREET & SPITAL STREET, DARTFORD (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Hythe Street and Spital Street, Dartford from 19 to 33 Spital Street through to 43 Hythe Street.

The Order will become effective on 9th November 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to start 14th November 2009 and last 1 day between 06.00 – 19.00 hours. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate Dartford Christmas Lights Event

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
PRIORY ROAD NORTH, DARTFORD (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Priory Road North, Dartford between its junctions with Victoria Road to Lawson Road.

The Order will become effective on 9th November 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to start 12th November 2009 and last 3 days. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Victoria Road, Burnham Road and Lawson Road

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate thin surfacing works

HIGHWAYS - District of Dover

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(LOWER ROAD, TEMPLE EWELL) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because gas mains replacement works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Lower Road, Temple Ewell from junction of Mill Street, Lower Road and High Street, Temple Ewell on or after 26 October 2009 for an estimated period of 1 week or until such works are complete. The Order will remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via London Road Temple Ewell and Alkham Road.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(MILL HILL & MILL ROAD, DEAL) (TRAFFIC RESTRICTIONS) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because carriageway resurfacing works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order restricting traffic on Mill Hill & Mill Road, Deal as described in columns 2 and 3 of the schedule to this order on or after 26 October 2009 for an estimated period of 3 days or until such works are complete. The Order will remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via for each road described in column 1 of the schedule to this order is described in column 4 of that schedule.

Schedule

Road	Restriction	Length of road affected	Alternative routes
Mill Hill	Road closure	Closed from the junction with Freemans Way to the junction with Manor Road	Mill Road, Hamilton Road, Telegraph Road, St Richards Road and Mill Hill.
Mill Road	10mph temporary mandatory speed limit	For a distance of 215 metres between the junctions of Manor Road and Hamilton Road. The effect of the Order is to impose a temporary mandatory 10mph speed restriction within the works area, which will be operated by means of a "convoy" system when the roadworks are taking place.	Mill Road, Hamilton Road, Telegraph Road, St Richards Road and Mill Hill.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS, DEAL) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because water pipe renewal works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Various Roads, Deal as described in columns 1 and 2 of the schedule to this order on or after 26 October 2009 for an estimated period of 7 days or until such works are complete. The Order will remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via for each road described in column 1 of the schedule to this order is described in column 3 of that schedule.

Schedule

Road	Length of road affected	Alternative routes
Wellington Road	From the junction with Blenheim Road to the junction with Victoria Road	Blenheim Road, Gilford Road, Victoria Road, Sondes Road, Beach Street, South Street
Middle Street	From the junction with Silver Street to the junction with Golden Street. Outside 145	Local traffic via Silver Street, Beach Street and Golden Street
Middle Street	From the junction with Brewer Street to the junction with Coppin Street. Outside 82	Local traffic via Coppin Street, Beach Street and Brewer Street
Wellington Road	For the duration of the works, there will be a temporary suspension of the existing one way order on Wellington Road between the junctions of Blenheim Road and Victoria Road. This suspension will cease on completion of the works.	

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS DOVER DISTRICT) (WAITING RESTRICTIONS AND STREET PARKING PLACES) ORDER 2005 AMENDMENT NO 13 ORDER 2009 ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

Notice is hereby given that Kent County Council has made an Order under Sections 1, 2, and 124 of and part IV of Schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the effect of which has introduced additional "At Any Time" Waiting Restrictions on Priory Station Approach Road, Dover.

This is an additional proposal to the Dover Priory Station Environmental Improvement scheme the purpose of which has linked the existing double yellow lines with those being installed within the station area, thus allowing free traffic flow throughout the station area.

A copy of the Order which will come into operation on Monday 26th October 2009, an explanatory statement and a map showing the extents of the scheme may be inspected during normal office hours at the Kent County Council Offices, Invicta House, Maidstone, Kent, ME15 1XX, the Dover Town Council Offices, Maison Dieu House, Biggin Street, Dover, CT16 1DW and the Dover District Council Offices, White Cliffs Business Park, Dover, Kent, CT16 3PJ.

Anyone may, by application to the High Court within 6 weeks of the date of publication of this Notice, challenge the validity of the Orders or of any provision contained in them on the grounds that it is not within the powers conferred by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, or of any instrument made there under, or that there has been a failure to comply with any statutory requirement in relation to the Order.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(AGESTER LANE, DENTON) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because BT duct installation works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Agester Lane, Denton from the junction with Snow Hill to the junction with Lodge Lees Road on or after 5 November 2009 for an estimated period of 3 days or until such works are complete. The Order will remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via The Street, Canterbury Road and Snow Hill.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Gravesham

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
SCHOOL LANE, HIGHAM (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on School Lane, Higham, as noted in Schedule 1.

The Order will become effective on 26th October 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 1 week. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: as noted in Schedule 1.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate reconstruction works to damaged speed cushions.

Schedule 1

Road Name	Extent	Dates	Diversion
School Lane, Higham	Just north of junction with Steadman Close	26th October for 5 working days 08:00 to 18:00	Hermitage Road, Lower Rochester Road and Chequers Street
School Lane, Higham	Outside No. 10 Alexander Cottages	26th October for 5 working days 08:00 to 18:00	Hermitage Road, Lower Rochester Road and Chequers Street

For further information, please contact Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent Highway Services

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
WHITE HILL ROAD, MEOPHAM (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on White Hill Road Meopham between its junctions with Harvel lane to the junction with Horns Oak Road.

The Order will become effective on 26th October 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to commence on 29th October and last 5 days between 0900 - 1500. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: Harvel Street, Dean lane, Chandlers Road, Priestwood, Horns Oak Road.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate gully cleansing.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
ST FRANCIS AVENUE, GRAVESEND M(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on St Francis Avenue, Gravesend between its junctions with Leander Drive to Cambria Crescent.

The Order will become effective on 9th November 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to start 13th November 2009 and last 3 days between 09.00 - 15.00 hours. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Leander Drive, Marling Way, Valley Drive and St Hilda's Way.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate thin surfacing works

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
GREEN FARM LANE, SHORNE (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Green Farm Lane between its junctions with Burdetts Avenue to Couts Avenue.

The Order will become effective on 9th November 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 1 day. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Green Farm Lane, Lower Road, Taylors Lane, School Lane, Villa Road, Gravesend Road, Green Farm lane.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate BT works.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Maidstone

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(CARING LANE, THURNHAM) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Caring Lane, Thurnham on or after Monday 26th October 2009 for a period of up to 3 working days or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the above restriction is for southbound traffic via A20 Ashford Road, Old Mill Road, Forge Lane and for northbound traffic vice versa.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary for gully cleansing. Should you require any further information the contact is Liz Dracup on 08458 247800.

HIGHWAYS - District of Sevenoaks

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
VARIOUS ROADS, SEVENOAKS (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on various roads, Sevenoaks as noted in the attached schedule 1.

The Order will become effective on 26th October 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last as noted in attached schedule. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: as per the attached schedule.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate gully cleansing and drainage works.

Schedule 1

Road name	Extent	Dates	Diversion
Rowdow, Otford	From Pilgrims Way East to Birchin Cross Road	28th October 2009 for 3 days between 0900 - 1500	Pilgrims way East, A225 Shoreham Road, Frackenden Lane, Rowdow Lane
Pilgrims Way East, Otford to Kemsing	Section 1 – From A225 Station Road / Shoreham Road to Beechy Lees Road Section 2 – From Beechy Lees Road to Childsbridge Lane Section 3 – From Childsbridge Lane to The Landway Section 4 – From The Landway to Cotmans Ash Lane	16th November 2009 for 10 weeks	Section 1 and 2 – A225 station Road/Sevenoaks Road/Otofrd Road, A25 Seal Road/ High Street and Childsbridge Lane Section 3 – Childsbridge Lane, West End and The Landway Section 4 – The Landway, West End/ High Street and Cotmans Ash Lane

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
CASTLE HILL, HARTLEY (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Castle Hill, Hartley as noted in schedule 1.

The Order will become effective on 26th October 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last as noted in schedule 1. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: as noted in the schedule.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate Kent Highway Services and Freedom Powerlines.

Schedule 1

Road name	Extent	Dates	Diversion
Castle Hill, Hartley	Whole length	26th October 2009 for 2 days between 09.15 – 15.30 hours	Valley Road, Fawkham Road, B260 Main Road and Hartley Road
Castle Hill, Hartley	From junction with Ash Road up to the crossing with 1 way lane leading to the school	28th October 2009 for 2 days	Fawkham Road, B260 Main Road, Hartley Road, Ash Road and Castle Hill

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
CHART LANE, BRASTED (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Chart Lane, Brasted outside Pilgroves.

The Order will become effective on 9th November 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to commence 10th November 2009 and last 5 days. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Chart Lane, High Street, New Road, Emmetts Road and Chart Lane.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
OAK LANE, SEVENOAKS (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Oak Lane, Sevenoaks junction of High Street outside Royal Oak Hotel.

The Order will become effective on 9th November 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 7 days. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Tonbridge Road, Solefields Road, Ashgrove Road and Oak Lane.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate replacement of a bay window.

HIGHWAYS - District of Shepway

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(HORN STREET, FOLKESTONE) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because defect repair works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Horn Street, Folkestone from junction of Queens Avenue to the junction of Craythorne Close on 26 October 2009 for an estimated period of 1 week or until such works are complete. The Order will remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Seabrook Road, Sandgate Esplanade, Sandgate High Street, Military Road and either Risborough Lane and Church Road or Royal Military Avenue and Church Road.

Highways - District of Swale

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(CHURCH ROAD, MURSTON) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of works to resurface a defective carriageway, the Kent County Council has made an Order through prohibiting traffic on Church Road, Murston, between the junctions with Dolphin Road and Tonge Road, on or after 30 October 2009, for an estimated period of 2 nights or until the works are complete. It is planned that the works will be carried out between the hours of 6.30 pm and 11.00 pm

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Dolphin Road, Castle Road, Eurolink Way, Crown Quay Lane, St Michael's Road, East Street, Canterbury Road and Murston Road.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(NOREEN AVENUE, MINSTER-ON-SEA) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of works to resurface a defective carriageway, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Noreen Avenue, Minster-on-Sea, between the junctions of The Broadway and Magpie Court, on or after 29 October 2009 for an estimated period of 2 days or until the works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via The Broadway, Minster Road, Sunnyside Avenue, and Scrapsgate Road.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(HIGHSTED ROAD AND STOCKERS HILL, SITTINGBOURNE) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of resurfacing works to repair a defective road surface, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic at the junction with Highsted Road and Stockers Hill, Sittingbourne, on or after 26 October 2009, for an estimated period of 1 day or until the works are complete.

The alternative routes for through traffic will be (a) for Highsted Road, via Bell Road, Woodstock Road, Broadoak Road, and Highsted Valley; (b) for Stockers Hill via Green Lane, Church Street, The Street, Fox Hill, Canterbury Road, East Street, South Avenue, Stanhope Road, Bell Road, Woodstock Road and Cromer Road.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(RIDDLES ROAD, BORDEN) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of carriageway repairs, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Riddles Road, Borden, between the junctions with Borden Lane and College Road, on or after 11 November 2009 for an estimated period of 6 days or until the works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Borden Lane, Homewood Avenue and College Road.

HIGHWAYS - District of Thanet

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(PARK LANE, BIRCHINGTON) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because flint wall repair works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Park Lane, Birchington from outside 7-9 Park Lane, Birchington on or after 26 October 2009 for an estimated period of 7 days or until such works are complete. The Order will remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Park Lane, Brunswick Road, Park Avenue and Canterbury Road.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(CHILTON LANE, RAMSGATE) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because carriageway repair works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Chilton Lane, Ramsgate outside Chilton School on or after 26 October 2009 for an estimated period of 1 day or until such works are complete. The Order will remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via London Road, Goodwin Road and Downs Road.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS, MARGATE) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because planing and surfacing works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Various Roads, Margate as described in columns 1 and 2 of the schedule to this order on or after 26 October 2009 for an estimated period of 3 nights or until such works are complete. The Order will remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

The alternative route for through traffic for each road described in column 1 of the schedule to this order is described in column 3 of that schedule.

Schedule

Specified Road	Length of road affected	Alternative routes	Duration
Northdown Park Road	170m to the West of and 40m to the East of the junction with Northumberland Avenue. Total length 210m	Eastbound Laleham Road, Millmead Road Westbound Laleham Road, Millmead Road, Upper Dane Road	3 nights
Northumberland Avenue	60m North from the junction with Northdown Park Road	Northdown Road, Queen Elizabeth Avenue, Northdown Park Road	

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Tonbridge & Malling

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(GIGHILL ROAD, LARKFIELD) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Gighill Road, Larkfield between Leybourne Way and Lunsford Lane on or after Wednesday 28th October 2009 for a period of up to 5 nights or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the route described above is for southbound traffic via Leybourne Way, Lunsford Lane and for northbound traffic vice versa.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary for essential carriageway resurfacing works. Should you require any further information the Kent Highway Services contact is Robert Seggie on 08458 247 800.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(QUARRY HILL ROAD, TONBRIDGE) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Quarry Hill Road, at the roundabout with the junction of Brook Street on or after Monday 26th October 2009 for a period of up to 2 nights between 20:00hrs and 06:00hrs or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the route described above is for London southbound traffic via A2014 Pembury Road, A21 By-Pass. Tunbridge Wells southbound traffic via A2014 Pembury Road, A21 Castle Hill, A264 Pembury Road, Sandhurst Road, North Farm Road, High Brooms Road, Yew Tree Road, A26 London Road, Quarry Hill Road and northbound vice versa. A21 northbound traffic via A21, A2014 Pembury Road. A21 westbound traffic specifically to Brook Street via A26 London Road, B2176 Bidborough Ridge, Penshurst Road, Haysden Lane, Upper Haysden Lane, Brook Street and eastbound vice versa.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary for essential carriageway resurfacing works. Should you require any further information the Kent Highway Services contact is Robert Seggie on 08458 247 800.

For further information, please contact Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent Highway Services

PUBLIC NOTICES

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS IN THE BOROUGH OF TONBRIDGE & MALLING) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC, SUSPENSION OF ONE WAY ORDER) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on the routes described in Column 1 of the Schedule hereto.

The alternative route for each route described in column 1 of the schedule hereto is described in column 3 of that Schedule. Access will be maintained up to the points of closure.

The Order will come into operation on Monday 26th October 2009 and will be valid for a maximum period of up to 3 weeks or until the works have been completed, whichever is sooner. The anticipated dates of works are listed in column 1.

Schedule

Specified road and Proposed start date and duration	The section affected	The alternative routes
C60 Ashes Lane, Hadlow 26th October 2009 for Duration of 10 Working Days, 08.00 – 17.00	Whole length. When required up to twenty four hours per day Monday to Sunday.	East bound traffic via Higham Lane, Cuckoo Lane, A26 Tonbridge Road. West bound traffic vice versa
C36 The Hurst, Plaxtol 27th October 2009 for Duration of 1 Working Day, 09.00 – 16.00	From Swanton Road to Old Soar Road. When required up to twenty-four hours per day Monday to Sunday.	North bound traffic via Roughway Lane, Long Mill Lane, Allens Lane, Old Soar Road. South bound traffic vice versa
U1478 St Vincents Lane, Addington 28th October 2009 for Duration of 1 Working Day, 08.00 – 17.00	From entrance to Keepers to entrance to the Village Hall. When required up to twenty-four hours per day Monday to Sunday.	East bound traffic via A20 London Road, Trottiscliffe Road, Park Road. West bound traffic vice versa
U1427 Platt House Lane, Stansted 29th October 2009 for Duration of 1 Working Day, 08.00 – 17.00	From Vigo Road to Wrotham Hill. When required up to twenty-four hours per day Monday to Sunday.	South bound traffic via Vigo Road, Stansted Hill, Plaxdale Green Road, Tumblefield Road, Wrotham Hill Road. North bound traffic vice versa
U1423 School Lane, Wouldham 30th October 2009 for Duration of 1 Working Day, 08.00 – 17.00	From Pilgrims Way to Oldfield Drive. When required up to twenty-four hours per day Monday to Sunday.	East bound traffic via High Street, Knowle Road, Pilgrims Way. West bound traffic vice versa
U277 Castle Street, Tonbridge 15th November 2009 for Duration of 1 Working Day, 09.00 – 16.00	From High Street to Bank Street. When required up to twenty-four hours per day Monday to Sunday.	All traffic via High Street and Castle Street. One way restriction on Castle Street to be suspended and traffic to be controlled using stop and go

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary for carriageway resurfacing works. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Jez Massy on 08458 247 800.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(THE ROCKS ROAD, EAST MALLING) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on The Rocks Road, East Malling on or after Monday 26th October 2009 for a period of up to 1 day between 0900hrs and 1600hrs or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the route described above is for eastbound traffic via Chapel Street, Wateringbury Road, Sweets Lane and for westbound traffic vice versa.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary for essential highway improvement works. Should you require any further information the Kent Highway Services contact is Jez Massy on 08458 247 800.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(CHAPMAN WAY, EAST MALLING) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Chapman Way, East Malling between the Backlands and Temple Way on or after Monday 26th October 2009 for a period of up to 7 Days or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the route described above is for westbound traffic via New Road, London A20, Winterfield Lane and for eastbound traffic vice versa.

Environment agency apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary for clearing and jetting through manholes. Should you require any further information about these works, their contact is Derek Petts on 07809 875642.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(A20 LONDON ROAD, RYARSH) (30MPH SPEED RESTRICTION) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of the likelihood of danger to the public using a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic traveling at any speed greater than 30mph on A20 London Road between Sandy Lane and Blooming Nurseries on or after Monday 9th November 2009 for a period of up to 3 weeks or until such works are completed.

Coinford Construction Limited apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary to construct a new traffic island. Should you require any further information about these works, their contact is Carol Johnson on 01342 840600.

For further information, please contact Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent Highway Services

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004
APPROVED PREMISES FOR CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS

Applications have been made to Kent County Council to grant a renewal of an approval for the following premises to act as venues for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: **Dorton House, Seal, Sevenoaks**
Applicant: **Sally-Anne Passmore**
Name of Premises: **The Hop Farm, Paddock Wood**
Applicant: **Peter Bull**
Name of Premises: **Combe Bank School, Sundridge, Sevenoaks**
Applicant: **Dominic Rossi**

The applications and plans of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the renewal of the grant of approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.

Giles Adey, Head of Registration
First Floor, Invicta House
Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX

Kent County Council

To advertise in this section
01303 817040

MERIDIAN WELDED STRUCTURES LTD
Company Number 03566656

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a meeting of the creditors of the above-named Company will be held at Salisbury House, 31 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 5SQ, on 29 October 2009, at 11.30 am for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99 to 101 of the said Act. A list of the names and addresses of creditors may be inspected free of charge at the offices of Tenon, 75 Springfield Road, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 6JB, between 10.00 am and 5.00 pm on the two business days preceding the meeting. Creditors wishing to vote at the Meeting must (unless they are individual creditors attending in person) lodge their proxies at the offices of Tenon, FAO: Duncan Robert Beat, no later than 12 noon on the business day preceding the meeting. Unless there are exceptional circumstances, a creditor will not be entitled to vote unless his proof has been lodged and admitted for voting purposes. Whilst proofs may be lodged at any time before voting commences, creditors intending to vote at the meeting are requested to send them with their proxies. Unless they surrender their security, secured creditors must give particulars of their security and its value if they wish to vote at the meeting. The resolutions taken at the meeting may include a resolution specifying terms on which the liquidator is to be remunerated. The meeting may receive information about, or be called upon to approve, the costs of preparing the statement of affairs and convening the meeting.

Dated 17 September 2009
By Order of the Board
Douglas Edward Riden, Director

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACTS - NOTICES OF APPLICATIONS

The following applications have been submitted to the Council and are being advertised for the reason(s) given in each case.

TM/09/02532/FL - Land West of Lunsford Lane Larkfield Aylesford Kent - Mr Nicholas Peen is applying for installation of a storage container for maintenance plant and equipment used for lakeside maintenance. Reason: GPI

TM/09/01751/LB - The Oast House Aldon Lane Offham West Malling Kent ME19 5PJ - Mr Martin Goff is applying for Listed Building Application: Replace existing rotten timber windows in Oast with flush timber casement windows with double glazed panes. Reason: LB CA

TM/09/02483/RM - Land At Jubilee Way Kings Hill West Malling Kent - Liberty Trust UK Ltd are applying for details of access, appearance, layout and scale of six two-storey office blocks with ancillary development, infrastructure, amenity space and landscaping being reserved matters submitted pursuant to condition 2 of planning permission ref. TM/05/00163/FL. Reason: HA MD PROW

Reasons for the case being publicised:

LB	Application relates to/affects a Listed Building or its setting
CA	Application is within/affects a Conservation Area
MD	Application is a Major Development
PROW	Application affects a Public Right of Way
GPI	Application is of general Public Interest
HA	Site is over 1ha.

These applications are displayed on our website www.tmbc.gov.uk - click on the button "Online Planning" (then View Existing Applications and select Public Access). You can submit your comments by emailing to planning.applications@tmbc.gov.uk (please quote the application number by the date set out below). Please note that we will publish a copy of any representations received on the Council's website, including your name and address.

Copies of applications listed may be seen during office hours (8.30 am and 5.00 pm Monday to Friday). Any applications within Hadlow, Hildenborough and Tonbridge are available at Tonbridge Castle, Tonbridge. Other applications are available at the office of the Director of Planning, Transport & Leisure, Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4LZ. Any representations should be made in writing quoting the application number by 15 November 2009.

David Hughes
Chief Executive

25 October 2009

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

To advertise in this section
01303 817040

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

KOS MEDIA (PUBLISHING) LTD
TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. Advertisements will be accepted only on the express condition that the advertiser warrants that the advertisement does not in any way contravene any existing legislation and in particular the Trade and Description Act 1968 and the Consumer Credit Act 1974.
2. It is the responsibility of all advertisers to ensure that all advertising meets all forms of government legislation and KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd (the "media owner") takes no responsibility for liability in errors and omissions to the content of our media.
3. All rates quoted are subject to VAT at the rate currently in force at the time the advertisement appears.
4. All rates within the annual advertising agreement will be rate protected for 12 months from the first date of publication under the signed agreement.
5. Any unsuitable material posted on any website belonging to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd by the advertiser or any associated third party will be removed or refused. All passwords and security supplied to the advertiser by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd in relation to the use of the posting of material via the media owner's online administration tool will be the responsibility of the advertiser. The advertiser indemnifies KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd against any damages as a result of misuse of these privileges by either the advertiser or any third party given password privileges by the advertiser.
6. KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd reserves the right to change passwords intermittently to ensure the overall and ongoing security of its websites within the public domain.
7. Copyright and licenses for voice-over/music/photography or film for advertising promotions or otherwise within the various forms of media in print, online and moving film owned by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must have been sought, verified or paid for by the advertiser where applicable. Approval or permissions must have been given by any potential beneficial owner voice-over or music. The advertiser must be able to verify any statements or claims (promotional or otherwise) in relation to their products/services promoted within any of the media offerings belonging to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd.
8. Where shrinkage of an advertisement occurs for whatever reason, the advertisement will be charged to the nearest full centimetre where it relates to the media owner's printed publications. This will NOT apply to full-page advertisements, which remain full pages even after shrinkage.
9. KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd reserves the right to omit or refuse any advertisement/commercial/web content without notice or explanation. In these terms the word "advertiser" shall be construed to include any person or organisation placing an advertisement on behalf of another.
10. A guarantee of insertion cannot be given and the media owners shall not be liable for any loss or damage caused by any error inaccuracy within your marketing content. In no case shall the total liability of the media owner for any error or omission exceed the price charged by the media owners for that advertising.
11. No liability is accepted for any loss or damage alleged to have arisen through delay in forwarding replies to Box numbers, however caused, nor for the loss or damage to any artwork supplied.
12. Claims for any error or inaccuracy in your media messages with KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must be made in writing to the accounts department within 10 days of publishing.
13. KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd accepts no responsibility for any errors or omissions made on their websites by the advertiser.
14. KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd has the right to cancel the advertiser's annual membership without notice should the advertiser deliberately publish out of date material or content on any of the media owner's online digital platforms. KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd will seek to recover, in full, all outstanding invoices in relation to the signed annual membership as a result of the advertiser's negligence in this regard and reserves the right to claim damages for any potential vexatious action via the advertiser.
15. Advertisers are requested to check their advertisements after the first insertion. The media owner will not be responsible for any errors on subsequent insertions, which have not been advised to them in writing.
16. A minimum of one month's notice must be given in writing for any cancellation of the signed annual advertiser's agreement. Upon cancellation, all discounts from KOS Media's standard effective media advertising rate card (July 2008-June 2009) will be recalculated and adjusted accordingly in line with KOS Media's standard media rate card (effective July 2008-June 2009) and will reflect the revised length of commitment denoted by the advertiser's written cancellation. Any surcharges, refunds or costs in relation to the production of the advertiser's TV commercial for the commitment set out within the advertiser's agreement will be met in full by the advertiser as per KOS Media's standard media advertising rate card (July 2008-June 2009). Discounts will be reapplied and any refunds or surcharges will be paid by either party within 30 days of the advertiser's written cancellation. Any other advertising placed must give a minimum of seven days' written notice and any discounts given for series bookings will be forfeited by the advertiser upon cancellation.
17. Seasonal contracts, Your Professional classified advertisements or any uplift advertising within the annual contract with the advertiser will be invoiced in full - at rate card - on receipt of any written cancellation of this contract within the 12-months.
18. All uplift advertisements must be booked in at least three months in advance of publication and will be subject to availability. All dates booked will be on a first-come, first-served basis.
19. The advertiser must agree to the date and time of filming of any online TV advertising commercial supplied by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd within the advertiser's agreement, (Platinum, Gold, Silver standard of commercial). Should, for any reason, the advertiser not be available at the agreed time without giving sufficient notice (at least 48 hours), KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd reserves the right to charge for any further TV production at its standard published hourly rate should the advertiser still wish to use KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd's production services to complete its TV commercial or photographic imagery included in the advertiser's agreement. The advertiser will approve and accept that there are only two choices of voice-over and music offered by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd. Should an advertiser wish to use other voice-overs or non-copyright free music it is the responsibility of the advertiser to pay the PRS rights should they be required to do so. Any changes to or failure to approve the TV production by the deadlines agreed between both parties will result in KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd being given permission by the advertiser to replace the TV commercial with pictures or stills from a choice of photography supplied by the media owner until the advertiser can supply a TV commercial produced at their own cost and risk outside of this agreement. The advertiser also accepts and agrees that this action would not reduce the value or cost of their membership. Any cost of changes required to the TV commercial throughout the advertiser's agreement will be borne by the advertiser outside of this agreement.
20. Each advertiser accepts that their ranking and position within KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd's search engine will be equal to those within their category (Platinum, Gold, Silver, Bronze, etc) other than they will be ranked based on the search engine criteria of optimisation within their level (Platinum, Gold, Silver or Bronze).
21. Any delivery claims made by the advertiser or discount vouchers published within the print or online media of KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd and any action as a result of the public or otherwise is the sole responsibility of the advertiser. Any claims resulting from this via KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must be met by the advertiser.
22. a. All credit accounts due for payment shall be notified to the Advertiser by the 30th day following the date of the invoice, time to be of the essence. All sums due to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd or RBS Factoring shall be paid in full, and the Advertiser shall have no right of set off in any circumstances.
    b. In the event that payment is not received by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd or RBS Factoring by the due date, the media owner shall be entitled to suspend all further advertising until payment is received and/or repudiate the contract and make any surcharges for breaking the contract.
    c. In the event that payment is not received by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd by the due date, the media owner reserves the right to charge interest on all overdue balances calculated on a daily basis at the rate of two per cent above the minimum lending rate of National Westminster Bank Plc from time to time in force.
    d. Not withstanding anything in these terms and conditions or implied to the contrary, in the event of the Advertiser ceasing to use the services of KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd (for whatever reason), the whole amount of monies due from the Advertiser to the date of cessation shall fall due for immediate payment.
    e. The Advertiser will be liable for all costs incurred by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd in the recovery of debts not paid by the due date.
    f. Payment may be made by cheque, credit transfer, direct debit, cash and any major credit card.
23. Any discount which KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd may have agreed with the Advertiser shall be forfeited in the event of failure by the Advertiser to complete the contract or to meet the above credit terms.
24. Advertising Agency commission will be allowed to those advertisers recognised by the Newspaper Society, but shall not exceed ten per cent and will be subject to the terms of that recognition. This commission will not be allowed if the Advertising Agency fails to meet the terms.
25. All private advertisements and certain categories as laid down by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must be prepaid.
26. The Advertiser agrees to indemnify KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd in respect of all costs, damages or other charges falling upon the media owners or any of the companies within the KOS Media Group as the result of legal action or threatened legal action or threatened legal arising from the publication of any advertisement or advertising promotion.
27. An order for an advertisement shall amount to acceptance of these terms and conditions, and any condition placed on an order by an Advertiser shall be null and void in so far as it conflicts with them.
28. Copyright in advertisements produced wholly or partially by the media owners belong to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd. Advertisers may not reproduce such advertisements without the media owner's written consent.

All terms and conditions stated above are in place to protect the advertiser, the media owner and the communities they serve within the public domain as well as the beneficial rights of individuals and organisations. KOS Media will endeavour to always act reasonably in applying its terms and conditions.

Effective from June 2008

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Mazda silences the boo boys

By **STEVE LOADER**

MAZDA has answered critics of its brilliant, yet flawed, CX-7 'sports crossover' by relaunching it with a 171bhp 2.2-litre turbodiesel on November 1.

The original arrived just two years ago with the excellent 260bhp 2.0-litre turbocharged petrol engine from the high performance Mazda6 MPS, attracting a verdict of 'great engine and handling – shame about silly fuel consumption'.

The revised car still has some go, but we can expect far more sales power.

Priced at £25,785 it does not look cheap, but this genuinely sporting SUV – in keeping with Mazda's carefully cultivated Zoom-Zoom marketing – comes fully-loaded and threatens less elegant and more expensive German rivals.

It should also now average nearly 40mpg against less than 30mpg in its former petrol-only form, while CO2 emissions are 199g/km against 243 previously. The drawback, of course, is that where the Mazda used to dart to 62mph in just eight seconds – impressive for a comparatively bulky SUV – it now needs more than 11.

Mark Cameron, sales and marketing director at Kent-based Mazda UK, said: "The new CX-7 is more heavily orientated towards a sports car in its styling and driving dynamics, while offering an SUV-style commanding driving position and a strong road presence that portrays Mazda's 'dare to be different' brand identity."

The new turbodiesel unit delivers maximum output from just 2,000rpm, but Mazda stresses that this is no simple 'engine swap': the body shell has been stiffened by five per cent, an already agile suspension retuned, gear ratios revised and cabin noise reduced.

The five-seater is versatile with 60/40 split folding rear seats made easy using Mazda's one-touch Karakuri release system.

Addressing speculation that the recession may prove to be the watershed for once seemingly unstoppable 4x4/SUV sales, Cameron added: "I am convinced that there is still plenty of life in the UK's SUV segment. The new Mazda CX-7 is not a huge vehicle designed for the country that will be brought into town – it is a sports crossover with plenty of attitude, plenty of versatile ability and great dynamics that out-perform the class."

ULTRA-ECONOMICAL:
The new Mazda3

There is just one model, now with more chrome, plus an impressive spec: 19-inch alloys, Xenon headlights, leather seats, climate control, cruise control, all-electric windows, electrically adjustable/heated front seats, Bose sound system with six-CD autochanger and nine speakers, sat nav, and Bluetooth for mobile phones and MP3 devices.

Also new from the brand is an ultra economical Mazda3 model. The standard line-up already delivers 16 per cent better fuel economy across the range while CO2 emissions are down by up to 19 per cent, but the new i-Stop option saves fuel and pollution at traffic lights or in congestion.

It differs from existing engine start-stop systems on the market, by not relying on a starter motor to 'reboot' the engine, which can cause a lag between depressing the accelerator and the engine firing up again.

Mazda claims to have eliminated lag by using the direct-injection of the 2.0-litre petrol unit to pump in and ignite fuel in a single cylinder to set the crankshaft in motion for a smoother and faster restart.

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09 58 VAUXHALL AGILA 1-2 DESIGN 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR BLUE 3000 MILES....£9495
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08 58 A CLASS 150 CLASSIC SE AUTO PAS 5DR AIR/C SILVER 7000 MILES....£13995
08 58 MEGANE 1-6 EXPRESSION ESTATE AUTO PAS BLACK 600 MILES £9995
08 58 CHEVROLET LACETTI EST 1-8 SX SW AUTO PAS 5 DR BLACK 4000M....£7495
08 58 FORD FUSION 1-6 ZETEC CLIMATE SILVER METALLIC 6000 MILES £9995
08 58 FORD FUSION 1-4 STYLE CLIMATE SILVER METALLIC 5000 MILES....£9495
08 58 PEUGEOT 107 2-TRONIC 3DR AUTO PAS RED 1400 MILES....£7995
08 58 PEUGEOT 107 2-TRONIC 3DR AUTO PAS RED 2000 MILES....£7995
08 58 NEW CORSA 1-2 CLUB AUTO PAS AIR/C 5DR ICE BLUE 4000 MILES....£8995
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08 58 NISSAN NOTE ACENTA 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR SILVER 1800 MILES....£9995
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06 56 MEGANE PRIVILEGE 1-6 CONVERT AUTO PAS GREY 16000 MILES....£10995
06 56 MEGANE DYNAMIC 1-6 CONVERT AUTO PAS BLUE 19000 MILES....£10495
06 06 MICRA 1-6 ESSENSA CONVERT AUTO PAS SILVER 28000 MILES....£9995
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06 06 MEGANE DYNAMIC 1-6 CONVERT AUTO PAS BLUE 10000 MILES....£10495

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On the road price	£11,235
Dealer deposit contribution	£2,091
Customer deposit	£NIL
Total amount to be financed	£9,144
Acceptance fee	£99
Optional final payment	£3,992
Plus credit facility fee	£139
& option to purchase fee	£10
Total amount payable by customer	£10,493
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On the road price	£11,835
Dealer deposit contribution	£2,058
Customer deposit	£NIL
Total amount to be financed	£9,777
Acceptance fee	£99
Optional final payment	£4,352
Plus credit facility fee	£139
& option to purchase fee	£10
Total amount payable by customer	£11,223
5.9% APR Excess miles over 6,000 miles	typical 6p per mile

Mégane Hatch i-Music 1.6 100 5 door	
36 monthly payments of	£199
On the road price	£15,485
Dealer deposit contribution	£2,763
Customer deposit	£1,999
Total amount to be financed	£10,723
Acceptance fee	£99
Optional final payment	£4,694
Plus credit facility fee	£139
& option to purchase fee	£10
Total amount payable by customer	£14,105
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FIRST GEAR

Compiled by Steve Loader

Alto's Kiwi comfort and efficiency test

IN A bid to dispel the notion that city cars are 'one-trick ponies', only of use in towns, Suzuki put its Alto baby to a marathon test in the wilds of New Zealand.

Two Altos – one manual, one automatic – drove 2,112 miles across both of the country's main islands from the capital Auckland to NZ's most southerly point and back.

The aim was to highlight the economy of the one-litre three-cylinder Suzukis and gauge comfort levels over the six-day journey.

The manual averaged 63.8mpg, while the auto returned 56.5mpg and one of the Kiwi journalist drivers, Allan Dick said afterwards: "We have just proved any prejudices about small cars can be put aside.

"We did the Auckland to Wellington drive with the speedo needle sitting close to 100 km/h all the way and were never passed by anything that wasn't going in the opposite direction."

Colleague Donn Anderson said: "We proved it was possible to get close to petrol/electric hybrid economy in a conventional car that carries a lower price tag than those more complex vehicles."

Can a 'Bipper Tepee' up your credit rating?

SAYING 'I've got a Bipper Tepee' isn't going to impress the girls – whether they know what you're talking about or not.

But there is a niche for Peugeot's new van-based baby MPV, even though it competes with near identically-priced versions of the same car from Fiat (Qubo) and Citroën (Nemo Multispace).

If there is any justice though, the Bipper should romp it with the most eccentric name – Tepee being Peugeot's sub-branding for its budget people carrier line-up.

And 'budget' is what it is all about with prices from £9,995, £35/year road tax and a potential average of 60-plus mpg on the diesel version – a real recession-buster.

For a van with windows, it also has funky styling, notably from a front end resistant to low-speed crunches and an angular rear window arrangement.

The rear seats fold forward to leave the huge 'hi-cube' load space inherited from the donor vehicle. We'll be road testing the Bipper Tepee – and its street cred – shortly.

Meanwhile, Peugeot has added a greener petrol option for the Bipper's big brother, the Partner Tepee. The 120bhp 1.6 VTi (from £12,795) arrives next month, offering cuts of 12.5 and 15 per cent respectively in fuel consumption and CO2 emissions.

Infiniti needs the recession to end

RECESSION is not the ideal climate for launching a new car luxury brand, but wheels were put in motion for Nissan's Infiniti off-shoot long before the crisis.

The first dealership opened this week in Reading, with a party hosted by celebrity chef and self-confessed petrolhead James Martin.

A London branch opens soon, but there is no word yet of a Kent satellite selling the new brand's sporting cars and SUVs.

USED CAR SALE

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Skoda Fabia 2 1.2 HTP 12V (70 BHP) 5-Dr Hatchback, 9344 miles, Petrol, Manual **£7,990**

Skoda Fabia 2 1.4 16V (85 BHP) 5-Dr Hatchback, 626 miles, Petrol, Manual **£10,190**

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Skoda Roomster 1.4TDI PD (80BHP) 3 5-Dr MPV, 7861 miles, Diesel, Manual **£9,990**

Skoda Roomster 1.6 16v (105BHP) 2 5-Dr MPV, 4090 miles, Petrol, Automatic **£9,990**

Skoda Octavia 1.6 FSI Classic 5-Dr Hatchback, 28000 miles, Petrol, Manual **£7,290**

Skoda Octavia 1.6 FSI Elegance 5-Dr Hatchback, 9112 miles, Petrol, Manual **£11,490**

Skoda Octavia 1.9 TD Classic 5-Dr Hatchback, 16,000 miles, Diesel, Manual **£7,490**

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Motability

Changes swirl around Astra

by STEVELOADER

RARELY can such an important new car have been launched into such uncertainty as the latest Vauxhall Astra.

Reputedly, the best ever in relation to competitiveness – look out for our forthcoming First Drive report – the sixth-generation Astra and its UK plant have become enmeshed in the financial woes of the once mighty General Motors of America.

GM's European arm, comprising Vauxhall and Germany's Opel, are up for sale and there is still uncertainty about who will buy it and which plants will close in a cost-cutting exercise tipped to follow.

To add insult to injury, Vauxhall also decided this year to drop out of the British Touring Car Championship (BTCC) after more than 20 years.

Its final outing culminated in a hardfought meeting at Kent's own Brand Hatch circuit last weekend, when the Astra VXR team's star driver Fabrizio Giovanardi was beaten back to third after being in with a chance of the overall title, but Vauxhall did take the manufacturers'/constructors' title and team trophy.

The new production car was also on show at the circuit and, despite troubles at GM, Vauxhall's Merseyside plant at Ellesmere Port is producing the new car for now – it is due in showrooms by the end of the year.

It is an eye-catching car too, borrowing on sharp styling that helped the bigger Insignia to the coveted European Car of the Year 2009 title.

The now famous 'blade' motif behind the Insignia's front wheel arch, has been moved to the rear door for the new Astra, which makes virtually all other family hatch contenders look dull – especially its Ford Focus arch rival.

This return to slippery style is also surely driven by the need to cut fuel consumption and emissions and if this is the design for the 'practical' five-door, just imagine how the sporty three-door Astra version might look like, when it arrives later.

Interior Astra shots show the same quality style and materials of the bigger Insignia, which has led sales in its own sector so far this year.

Vauxhall says the new Astra has a lighter, more space-efficient and sophisticated chassis than the current car – no mean performer itself – with a 'FlexRide' adaptive damping system option as available on the Insignia.

This allows suspension character to adjust automatically or be set on one of three programmable settings.

Vauxhall bids BTCC farewell

MORE than 20 years of racing by Vauxhall in the British Touring car Championships (BTCC) came to an end at Brand Hatch earlier this month.

The BTCC has been the mainstay of the marque's motor racing heritage and the current (fifth generation) Astra provided the marque with a final flourish with 2009 team and constructors' titles.

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Model shown: Polo Moda £11,385. Official fuel consumption for the new Polo Moda in mpg (litres/100km): urban 38.7 (7.3); extra urban 62.8 (4.5); combined 51.4 (5.5). CO_2 emissions 128g/km.

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USED CARS

AGILA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
08	58	Agila Club A/c	1.2	5	Steel Silver	4,385	7,995
08	58	Agila Club A/c CDTi	1.3D	5	Steel silver	6,450	8,995

ASTRA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
04	04	Astra Club Auto	1.8	5	Silver	91,800	3,995
06	56	Astra Active	1.6	5	Silver lightening	36,800	7,895
07	57	Astra Energy	1.4	5	Silver lightening	13,890	7,995
07	57	Astra Sxi	1.4	5	Moonland	27,275	8,795
08	08	Astra Sxi Sports hatch	1.6	3	Black sapphire	15395	10,495
08	08	Astra Sxi	1.6	5	Black sapphire	15,890	9,495
08	58	Astra Sxi	1.6	5	Green spirit	3,725	10,995
08	58	Astra Sri X Pack	1.8	3	Black sapphire	5,960	12,995
09	09	Astra Breeze Plus CDTi	1.7D	5	Star silver	8,320	11,495
09	09	Astra Breeze Plus	1.6	5	Metro blue	5,950	10,495
09	09	Astra Breeze CDTi	1.7D	5	Ultra blue	5,650	10,995
09	09	Astra Breeze CDTi	1.7D	5	Metro blue	4,720	10,995

CORSA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
01	26*	Corsa comfort auto	1.4	3	Star silver	69350	3,295
06	55	Corsa Life	1.2	3	Misty grey	11,295	4,995
06	56	Corsa Sxi Plus	1.4	5	Silver lightening	17,200	6,795
07	57	Corsa Design	1.2	3	Air blue	21,575	7,795
07	57	Corsa Design	1.4	5	Silver lightning	19,370	8,495
07	57	Corsa Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Air blue	25800	8,395
08	08	Corsa Breeze	1.2	3	Star silver	12,220	8,195
08	58	Corsa Sxi CDTi A/c	1.3	5	Silver lightening	12775	9,795
08	58	Corsa Design CDTi	1.3	3	Metro blue	6,425	9,795
09	58	Corsa Sxi A/c	1.4	5	Metro blue	11390	9,495
08	58	New Corsa Sxi CDTi	1.3D	3	Star silver	4,200	9,495
09	09	Corsa Sxi In Touch	1.2	5	Star silver	4,110	10,395
09	09	Corsa Sxi In Touch	1.2	5	Star silver	2,940	10,395
09	09	Corsa Design In Touch	1.2	3	Black sapphire	3,380	9,995

INSIGNIA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
09	58	Insignia Elite Auto Nav	2.0	5	Star silver	4,060	19,995

MERIVA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
03	53*	Meriva Enjoy	1.6	5	Star silver	86,875	3,795
07	07	Meriva Energy	1.4	5	Silver lightening	18,950	7,495
08	58	Meriva CDTi Breeze Plus	1.3	5	Black sapphire	10,930	9,995
09	09	Meriva Active CDTi	1.3D	5	Ultra blue	8,750	10,695

TIGRA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
06	06	Tigra Exclusiv	1.4	2	Air blue	30,500	8,995

VECTRA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
04	54*	Vectra Design Auto	2.2	5	Oyster	63,100	4,495
06	06	Vectra elite CDTi (150)	1.9	5	Black Sapphire	38,125	8,995

ZAFIRA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
03	03*	Zafira Elegance	1.8	5	Prestige blue	33,660	4,995
06	56	Zafira Club	1.6	5	Metro blue	40,250	8,495
09	09	Zafira Breeze Plus	1.6	5	Star silver	8,750	11,995

OTHER MAKES

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
04	54*	Mitsubishi Colt Equipe diesel	1.5	5	Silver	62670	3,995
05	55	Citroen C2 design	1.1	3	Blue	30450	4,495

DUE SOON

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
08	58	Corsa Sxi A/c	1.2	5	Black sapphire	9,000	9,995
03	03*	Astra Club	1.6	5	Star silver	21,000	3,995
06	56	Signum Elite Auto CDTi	1.9D	5	Misty grey	48,000	8,995
05	05*	Zafira Design CDTi	1.9D	5	Star silver	66,000	7,995
09	09	Zafira Sri XP CDTi	1.9D	5	Star silver	5,000	18,995
09	09	Insignia Elite CDTi Auto (160)	1.9D	4	Black sapphire	8,000	22995
09	09	Insignia Sports Tourer Exclusiv (160)	1.9D	5	Panacotta	12,000	17,995
09	09	Insignia Sports Tourer Exclusiv (180)	1.9D	5	Silver lightening	5,000	17,995

COMPANY OWNED VEHICLES - CARS

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
09	09	Agila Design	1.2	5	Moroccan blue	2,200	8,295
09	09	Agila Design	1.2	5	Lemon grass	1,200	8,295
09	09	Agila Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Atlanta blue	1,700	9,995
09	09	Agila Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Steel silver	2,300	9,995
09	09	Corsa Sxi CDTi A/C	1.3	3	Black sapphire	2,200	10,495
09	09	Corsa Sxi CDTi A/c	1.3	3	Flame red	2,000	10,495
09	09	Corsa Active	1.2	5	Silver lightening	3,350	9,995
09	09	Corsa Sxi	1.2	3	Black sapphire	3,000	9,495
09	09	Astra Breeze CDTi	1.7D	5	Silver lightening	2,300	10,995
09	09	Astra Breeze Sports hatch	1.7D	3	Black sapphire	2,200	11,995
09	09	Meriva Active CDTi	1.3D	5	Ultra blue	2,000	11,495
09	09	Insignia Sports Tourer Exclusiv	1.8	5	Black sapphire	2,200	14,995
09	09	Insignia Sports Tourer Exclusiv CDTi	2.0D	5	Technical grey	3,500	17,995

All mileages are approximate, as vehicles are still in use at the present time

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COMMERCIAL VEHICLES*

USED SELECTION

Year	Reg	Model	Eng		Colour	M/age	£
06	56	Combo	1.3 CDTi	Envoy, plylined	White	36120	£5495
07	07	Combo	1.3 CDTi	Crew van, PAS,	White	8,700	£7,495
07	57	Combo	1.3 CDTi	Fold flat passenger seat,	White	11,450	£6,995
07	57	Movano	2.50CDTi	Long wheel base,	White	10,300	£10,995
08	08	Movano	2.50CDTi	MWB, Plylined	White	11,050	£9,995
08	08	Movano	2.50CDTi	LWB, Bulkhead	White	6,460	£11,995
08	58	Movano	2.50CDTi	MWB H/R, Plylined	White	14,050	£10,995
08	08	Vivaro	2.0CDTi	Plylined, SWB	White	3,770	£8,795
09	09	Vivaro	2.0CDTi	LWB, 115bhp, plylined	White	9,200	£10,495
09	09	Vivaro	2.0CDTi	SWB, 115 bhp, plylined	White	9,950	£9,995

PRE-REG VEHICLES

Year	Reg	Model	Eng		Colour	M/age	£
09	09	Corsavan	1.3CDTi	Sportive	Silver	Delivery	£9,995
09	09	Movano	1.7CDTi	Sportive CDTi	White	Delivery	£11,495
09	09	Astravan	1.7CDTi	Sportive CDTi	Silver	Delivery	£11,495

COMPANY VEHICLES

Year	Reg	Model	Eng		Colour	M/age	£
09	09	Vivaro	2.0CDTi	LWB Double cab	White	TBA	£14,995

*All Commercial Vehicle prices exclude VAT at 15%

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DrivingReview

by STEVELOADER

CHIEF DRIVING CORRESPONDENT
steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

MitsubishiOutlander

Outlander gains firm acceptance this time

CURIOUS how two generations of Mitsubishi Outlander have fitted the same name in totally different ways.

The original car (2004-07) probably invented the term 'crossover' by mixing off-roader and chunky estate, yet was doomed to be an 'outlander' with UK buyers as it was only ever sold here with a dipsomaniac 2.0-litre petrol engine.

However, its successor fits the Outlander name as Mitsubishi intended, suggesting suitability for life in the country... or on the frontier.

For this is a star 4x4 crossover and one of the Japanese brand's best models – I like its practical and durable Colt supermini too – and it is also offered with two diesel options as well as another thirsty petrol option, which we'll ignore after this.

The 'oil-burners' are all the choice you need. The test car featured a 140bhp VW-derived unit also used in Mitsi's elegant seven-seat Grandis MPV and across the VW empire itself – we're talking proven tech.

Admittedly, it can be coarse under acceleration, but there is no doubting its heart and the light-shifting six-speed 'box brings quiet motorway cruising.

The alternative is a 154bhp 2.2-litre developed by Peugeot-Citroën and Ford. I know this is a great engine for the Outlander too, having tried it in the Mitsi's cloned sisters, the Citroën C-Crosser and Peugeot 4007.

In order not to cut across each other's tracks though, all three derivatives are carefully priced so the 2.0-litre Mitsubishi is the cheapest diesel option – from £19,999 and now with more standard kit. If you must have the 2.2-litre unit then you pay 28 grand for the top-spec Mitsubishi version – the Frenchies come cheaper.

Your choice might also come down to styling; the Citroën is arguably more elegant, while the Peugeot's open-mouthed front provokes strong debate.

The Outlander charts a sensible middle course, being just rugged enough to underline the car's rural lifestyle.

Would-be Toyota RAV4 and Honda CR-V buyers should also check out this car and the ace up its sleeve – a no-cost option of two extra seats.

I use the term 'seats' loosely, because padding is sparse and the posture too awkward for long journeys, but they are convenient for school runs and local 'bus' trips, the middle row of seats folding forward easily for quick access and exit.

Rather than claiming the Outlander is an alternative to a 'seven-up' MPV though, view this as a bonus compared with the RAV and CR-V.

While I could not test it, the Mitsi should outclass those in a gentle off-road exercise too, especially as it has various drive options.

For best economy, the driver can lock the car in front-wheel drive though this leads to occasional scrabbling if you accelerate too enthusiastically on damp or loose surfaces.

So the likely default is '4WD auto', the fixed format with most 'soft-roaders'. This is essen-

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Motability

Official Government Environment Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO2 emissions (g/km). Matiz 0.8 S 5dr: Urban - 43.5 (6.5), Extra-urban - 68.9 (4.1), Combined - 56.5 (5.0). CO2 emissions 119g/km.
Vehicle shown features mica paint available at extra cost of £325. 3 years/30,000 miles full service package at an optional cost of £249. Available at participating retailers only. Not available in conjunction with any other offers. Savings against current man. rec. price and available on UK supplied vehicles ordered and registered before 31st October 2009. Prices correct at time of press. (Chev79242). Scrappage Allowance subject to eligibility, please ask for terms and conditions.

tially front-wheel drive too, with the rear wheels automatically adding extra drive and grip if sensors note loss of traction at the front.

'4WD Lock' does what it says, locking drive to all four wheels for muddy tracks and fields or snowfalls.

Like most 4x4s though, the Outlander will rarely have to flex its muscles or even justify its name, so the fact that it is simply a classy drive is a big plus; body roll is well controlled for a high riding vehicle and the car grips and rides with great composure.

It is also a handy MPV, with plenty of stowage and those tiny rear seats fold flat to the floor and, with the three genuine seats of the middle row folded forward, you have a serious cargo area easily loaded via a split tailgate.

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DrivingPortfolio

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Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★
Reliability	★★★★
How green	★★★
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Best rival	Nissan Qashqi + 2

TheVerdict

DON'T LIKE: there's nothing not to like

NOT SURE: buyers will seek out a Mitsubishi showroom when more Peugeot and Citroën sites offer a similar product

REALLY LIKE: its classy take on the 'crossover' term – part off-roader, part estate and part-MPV

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FUEL CONSUMPTION FIGURES IN MPG (L/100KM) FOR THE CEE'D 5-DOOR ARE: URBAN: 34.0 (8.3) - 60.1 (4.7). EXTRA URBAN: 49.6 (5.7) - 72.4 (3.9). COMBINED: 42.8 (6.6) - 67.3 (4.2). OFFICIAL CO2 EMISSIONS ARE: 158 - 110 G/KM.

*7-year/100,000 mile manufacturer's warranty. †Price correct at time of going to press and specification is subject to change without notice. Model shown is Kia 1.4 cee'd '1' @ £7,995 On The Road (OTR) after deducting £2,000 Government and Kia Scrappage incentive and £1,900 customer saving. Government Scrappage incentive applies to cars or vans registered on or before 31 August 1999 only when traded in against new cars. Scrapped vehicles must have been registered to the purchaser for at least the 12 months preceding the purchase of the vehicle and be MOT'd and taxed. Terms and conditions apply. OTR prices include VAT, number plates, delivery, 12 months' Government Vehicle Excise Duty (VED) and Vehicle First Registration Fee. Metallic paint option £395.00 inc. VAT. Subject to availability on vehicles registered between 01 October 2009 and 31 December 2009.

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CITROËN FINANCIAL SERVICES ELECT 3

CITROËN C1 1.0i 12V 68HP SPLASH 3-DOOR		4.9% APR typical†	
Per month only	£110.20	Deposit	£1500
Number of payments	36	Optional final payment	£4145
MRR OTR price* (includes compulsory £120 roadside assistance)	£8885	Amount of credit	£7265
		Agreed annual mileage (excess mileage charges apply)	6000
Total amount payable including optional final payment	£9612.20	Excess mileage charge per mile	8.08p

CITROËN C2

CITROËN FINANCIAL SERVICES ELECT 3

CITROËN C2 1.6i 16V 125HP VTS		4.9% APR typical†	
Per month only	£249.99	Deposit	£1750
Number of payments	36	Optional final payment	£3996
MRR OTR price* (includes compulsory £120 roadside assistance)	£13685	Amount of credit	£11815
		Agreed annual mileage (excess mileage charges apply)	6000
Total amount payable including optional final payment	£14745.64	Excess mileage charge per mile	2.3p

NEW CITROËN C3 PICASSO

CITROËN FINANCIAL SERVICES ELECT 3

NEW CITROËN C3 PICASSO 1.4 16V VTi 95HP EXCLUSIVE		4.9% APR typical†	
Per month only	£226.01	Deposit	£2000
Number of payments	36	Optional final payment	£4926
MRR OTR price* (includes compulsory £120 roadside assistance)	£13935	Amount of credit	£11815
		Agreed annual mileage (excess mileage charges apply)	6000
Total amount payable including optional final payment	£15062.36	Excess mileage charge per mile	2.54p

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OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT FUEL CONSUMPTION FIGURES (RANGE): URBAN CYCLE, EXTRA URBAN, COMBINED (LITRES PER 100KM/MPG) & CO_2 EMISSIONS (G/KM); HIGHEST: C2 1.6i 16V 125HP 9.3/30.4, 5.4/52.3, 6.9/40.9, 163. LOWEST: C1 1.0i 12V 68HP 5.5/51.4, 3.9/72.4, 4.5/62.8, 106.

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Official Government Test Environmental Data - Fuel Consumption Figures mpg (litres/100km): Vauxhall Range: urban 12.7 (22.3) - 51.4 (5.5), extra-urban 25.4 (11.1) - 74.3 (3.8), combined 18.6 (15.2) - 62.8 (4.5), CO2 Emissions 119 - 364 g/km.

Models shown may have optional extras available at an extra cost. On the road prices include number plates, delivery, Vehicle Excise Duty, first registration fee and VAT. Offers are available for registrations between 02.10.09 and 02.12.09 subject to availability and are available to private individuals and small Businesses 1-24 (purchase only). Take delivery before the 31st December to beat the VAT increase. Savings shown are against list price at time of publication, for details refer to Vauxhall's August 2009 price guide Edition 2. All other sales categories are excluded; cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer. Offers may not apply to all retailer stocks. UK-supplied vehicles only. (Vaux82314). *Including partners discount, GM Card discount and £1000 FDA. ~Price includes £1500 loyalty saving for existing Vauxhall owners.

BMW

1 SERIES, 118d Edition ES, charlie, only 5800 miles, manufacturers pdi, upgraded alloys, rain sensitive windscreen, cd player, areosport spoilers, dynamic stability control, runflat tyres, comfort pack, abs, adjustable steering column, air conditioning, alarm, anti dazzle rear screen, anti skid control + traction, bmw business stereo, clear lenses, drivers central armrest, electric windows, electric wing mirrors, front + rear parking distance control, front fog-lights, fully colour coded, high level rear brake light, immobiliser, multi airbag system, multi function steering wheel, pas, rear headrests, remote key central locking, sports seats with under-thigh support, sports suspension, third point seat belt, beat this price, fantastic price, absolutely fantastic price, find more like this, just look at these low miles, absolutely amazing car at this low price, this price cannot be beaten, over 314 bmws in stock, big value, just off m20/m26/m2, ** sold with a minimum of 6 months mot on all vehciles over 36 months old. *** we average over 350 bmw's in group stock ** our opening hours are from 8:30am until 6pm mon sat ** sun 10am until 6pm** during office hours please call our sales office on 01732 220555 ** out of hours please call on 07956 158119 between 6pm until 10pm ** Big Motoring World ** big enough to cope, small enough to care**, titanium silver, £15995, Wrotham Heath, 01732 220555 (TRADE)

1 SERIES, 118i ES AUTO, mt06gzo, only 44383 miles, manufacturers service history, upgraded alloys, cd player, areosport spoilers, dynamic stability control, runflat tyres, abs, adjustable steering column, air conditioning, alarm, anti dazzle rear screen, anti skid control + traction, bmw business stereo, clear lenses, electric windows, electric wing mirrors, full child safety window lock, fully colour coded, high level rear brake light, immobiliser, multi airbag system, pas, rear headrests, remote key central locking, sports suspension, third point seat belt, beat this price, fantastic price, absolutely fantastic price, find more like this, just look at these low miles, absolutely amazing car at this low price, this price cannot be beaten, over 314 bmws in stock, big value, just off m20/m26/m2 , sydney blue, £10497, Wrotham Heath, 01732 220555 (TRADE)

1 SERIES, 120d M SPORT SAT NAV, rf06wbd, only 58011 miles, manufacturers service history, sat nav, upgraded alloys, cd player, electric folding wing mirrors, xenons, lumbar support, cruise control, voice control bmw assist, bluetooth, loudspeaker system, comfort package, areosport spoilers, dynamic stability control, runflat tyres, abs, adjustable steering column, air conditioning, alarm, anti dazzle rear screen, anti skid control + traction, bmw business stereo, clear lenses, electric windows, electric wing mirrors, front fog-lights, full motor-sports bodykit, fully colour coded, high level rear brake light, immobiliser, motorsport front & rear spoliers, m-tech steering wheel & gear lever, multi airbag system, multi function steering wheel, on board computer, pas, rear headrests, remote key central locking, sports seats with under-thigh support, sports suspension, beat this price, fantastic price, absolutely fantastic price, find more like this, just look at these low miles, absolutely amazing car at this low price, this price cannot be beaten, over 314 bmws in stock, big value, just off m20/m26/m2, ** sold with a minimum of 6 months mot on all vehciles over 36 months old & comes complete with a comprehensive parts + labour warranty *** we average over 350 bmw's in group stock, black, £13997, Wrotham Heath, 01732 220555 (TRADE)

CITROEN

BERLINGO, 1.6HDi 600Kg First Diesel, 574749256, pas, drivers airbag, service indicator, immobiliser, solid paint, front head restraints, white, 51 miles, £6995, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

BERLINGO, 1.6HDI Refrigerated Chiller / Freezer, aaaaaa, cd player, power steering, electric windows, electric mirrors, remote central locking, brand new. delivery mileage. grp lined. hubbard fridge standby available if required (optional extra). over 50 fridge vans in stock. BHRV.co.uk, white, 15 miles, £9595, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

BERLINGO, Jiffy Hot & Cold Catering Truck, fn04zvv, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, power steering, air bag, electric windows, electric mirrors, radio cassette, refrigerated display, heated display, hand wash facilities. white, 0 miles, £8995, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

BERLINGO, Jiffy Hot & Cold Catering Truck, w173knu, large fridge. large oven. hot & cold water. ambient section. white, 77000 miles, £6995, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

BERLINGO, LX 800 HDi Refrigerated Chiller Freezer, kp56fwu, side load door, cd player, air bag, abs, power steering, electric windows, electric mirrors, remote central locking, grp lined. hubbard fridge. electric standby available if required (optional extra). white, 18000 miles, £7495, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

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BERLINGO, 1.9D Refrigerated Chiller, 3204180, grp lined. hubbard fridge. over fifty fridge vans in stock. www.BHRV.co.uk, white, 17000 miles, £5695, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

BERLINGO, LX 600 Refrigerated Chiller, pj51zrv, grp lined. davia 'discreet fridge'. p/x to clear. mot & tax. over fifty fridge vans in stock. www.BHRV.co.uk, white, 0 miles, £2195, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

BERLINGO, 600 LXD, fp56vtx. remote central locking, cloth upholstery, head restraints, power steering, air bag, ply-lined, barn doors, electric windows, electric mirrors, white, 30000 miles, £4000, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

C2, 1.1i Cool 3dr Hatch Sp Eds, gf57uzl, pas, abs, air conditioning, remote central locking, front electric windows, radio/cd, trip computer, passenger airbag, electricdoor mirrors, steering wheel reach adjustment, drivers airbag, steel wheels, isofix child seat anchor points, front head restraints, service indicator, blue, 50000 miles, £6995, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

C2, Design 1124cc 3 door, 2005, cd player central locking driver's airbag power steering history check electric windows, blue, 30450 miles, £4495, Sittingbourne, 01795 476222 (TRADE)

C3, Exclusive, gu08kbn, abs, air bag, immobiliser, central locking, remote central locking, air conditioning, stereo, electric front windows, trip computer, front fog lamps, automatic electric windows, radio, mp3 player, child locks, head restraints, isofix, 16'' alloys, height adjustable front seatbelts, digital clock, oil temperature gauge, height adjustable front headrests, centre console with cupholders, cigarette lighter, audible lights on warning, lockable glovebox, pen holder in centre console, multi function display, full size spare wheel, passenger seat height adjuster, upper glovebox, locking fuel filler cap, auto door lock when driving, drivers one touch window with anti-pinch feature, automatic boot locking, digital dashboard display, air recirculation system, aluminium gear knob, driver/passenger armrests, pollen filter, rear parcel shelf, front seatback pockets, audible speed warning programmable, body colour bumper skirts, height adjustable headlamps, maintenance indicator, high level third brake light, black panel night illumination, drawer under drivers seat, oil level indicator, 5 three point inertia reel seatbelts, coolant level warning indicator, 16'' cheetah alloy wheels, grey, 2000 miles, £9995, Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

C3, SX, yr55hkt, immobiliser, central locking, power steering, electric front windows, air conditioning, abs, cd player, electric mirrors, radio, red, 14000 miles, £5495, Bexleyheath, 01322 524 680 (TRADE)

DAEWOO

NEXIA, GLXi, 1997 r, tyres vgc battery, moss grey, 31800 miles, £1000, Kenneth Martin. Rochester, Kent, 01634719334 (PRIVATE)

LEGANZA, cdx auto, 1998, silver, 80000 miles, £595, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

NEXIA, GLXi, 1997 r, electric sun roof, security alarm, battery six mths vgc tyres all 4, spare as new.taxed, mot, till aug; 2010. full service history. a/c. moss grey, 31800 miles, £1000, Kenneth Martin. 01634719334 (PRIVATE)

FIAT

DOBLO, Active Hr, mt06zgd, abs, air bag, immobiliser, central locking, remote central locking, power steering, electric front windows, trip computer,blue, 13000 miles, £6495, Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

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06 (06) **Gen-2 GLS Auto** Black PAS ABS Leather Int one Owner FSH 3,000 miles **£5295**
06 (05) **Gen-2 1.6** Blue, PAS, ABS, Alloys, One Owner FSH 15,000 miles . . **£4995**
07 (07) **Savvy Style Auto 1.2** Silver, PAS ABS A/C One Owner FSH 19,000 miles **£4995**

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05 (55) **Suzuki 1.3 GL** Met Grey, PAS Roof Rails, Alloys, FSH, One Owner 31,000 miles. **£3995**
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56 (06) **Kia Picanto Zip** Red, PAS, ABS Sun Roof 21,000 miles. **£4595**
03 (03) **Rover 2Si** Blue, 5 Dr PAS, A/C , 47,000 miles **£2395**

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DOBLO, 1.9 Multijet Dynamic 5dr [120] Diesel Estate, rv58jvf, pas, abs, air conditioning, remote central locking, front electric windows, front fog lights, alloy wheels, radio/cd, trip computer, electricdoor mirrors, steering wheel reach adjustment, drivers airbag, rear headrests, folding rear seats, body coloured bumpers, service indicator, space saver spare wheel, lumbar support, immobiliser, front armrest, 17250 miles, £8998, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

DOBLO, Bonhoffa Hot & Cold Catering Vending Truck, av05nwj, bonhoffa conversion. hot cabinet. cold cabinet. 3x access hatches. hand wash. led internal lighting. white, 29000 miles, £11995, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

DUCATO, 35 Lwb 120 Multijet Refrigerated Chiller, wp56ofg, side load door, dual passenger seat, cd player, air bag, abs, electric windows, electric mirrors, remote central locking, grp lined. hubbard fridge. electric stanby available if required. www.BHRV.co.uk, white, 20000 miles, £11995, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

GRANDE Punto, gf09bjy, pas, abs, remote central locking, front electric windows, radio/cd, trip computer, side airbags, electricdoor mirrors, steering wheel reach adjustment, drivers airbag, front head restraints, folding rear seats, service indicator, body coloured bumpers, immobiliser, rear headrests, isofix child seat anchor points, rear armrest, 3x3 point rear seat belts, height adjustable drivers seat, rear wiper, full size spare wheel, jungle grey metallic, 5500 miles, £8998, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

GRANDE Punto, bg56ypk, pas, abs, remote central locking, front electric windows, radio/cd, trip computer, electricdoor mirrors, steering wheel reach adjustment, drivers airbag, cloth seat trim, isofix child seat anchor points, front head restraints, service indicator, height adjustable drivers seat, full size spare wheel, steel wheels, rear armrest, 3x3 point rear seat belts, rear wiper, body coloured bumpers, immobiliser, new orleans blue metallic, 26880 miles, £6285, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

GRANDE Punto, lm08vue, pas, abs, remote central locking, front electric windows, alloy wheels, radio/cd, trip computer, side airbags, steering wheel reach adjustment, drivers airbag, folding rear seats, service indicator, body coloured bumpers, immobiliser, grey metallic, 3074 miles, £7987, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

GRANDE Punto, ea06xop, pas, abs, remote central locking, front electric windows, alloy wheels, trip computer, side airbags, electricdoor mirrors, steering wheel reach adjustment, drivers airbag, front head restraints, folding rear seats, service indicator, full size spare wheel, immobiliser, isofix child seat anchor points, rear armrest, crossover black metallic, 26950 miles, £6996, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

GRANDE Punto, ro09pyf, pas, abs, remote central locking, front electric windows, radio/cd, trip computer, electricdoor mirrors, steering wheel reach adjustment, drivers airbag, cloth seat trim, front head restraints, folding rear seats, service indicator, full size spare wheel, immobiliser, steel wheels, rear armrest, 3x3 point rear seat belts, rear wiper, body coloured bumpers, height adjustable drivers seat, white, 5 miles, £8495, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

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PUNTO, ELX 16v Speedgear 5dr auto, y813mub, immobiliser, cloth upholstery, head restraints, power steering, air bag, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, stereo, gold, 50000 miles, £2999, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

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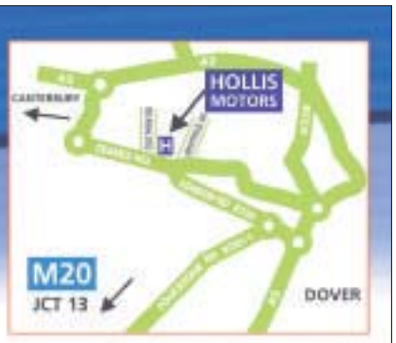

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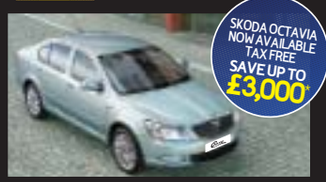

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Nurturing those green shoots

By **ANDY ROGERS**
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

FORMER business minister Baroness Vadera was pilloried in January after seeing "some green shoots" of recovery from recession.

Less than a year later though, most economists claim the UK really is in recovery.

But Kent chairman of the Institute of Directors (IoD) Frazer Thompson cautioned that local evidence is patchy, even in comparatively prosperous West Kent and Tunbridge Wells. "You only have to look at the gaps in Tunbridge Wells High Street to realise that even this traditionally prosperous area has felt the effects of the recession. It's never good to see businesses closing their doors and people out of work," he said.

CAUTIOUS: IoD's Frazer Thompson

But Mr Thompson, who is also chief executive of Chapel Down Winery at Tenterden, added: "While we are certainly not out of the woods yet and I fear there are more redundancies to come, the mood in the business community has become cautiously optimistic.

"For recovery to commence we need to see consumer confidence return and a real test of the mood will be how Christmas trading compares and whether people feel more comfortable about spending money. I think there are many worse places to be than Kent in this recession and we will be one of the first counties to feel the warmth of a recovery."

The signs are good in Ashford, which is regaining its pre-recession status as a boom town. Judith Armitt, MD of the Ashford's Future agency overseeing £2.5 billion of investment and a doubling the town's size by 2031, said: "While Ashford is not immune from the effects of recession, the housing market has remained buoyant and development has continued, especially at Eureka business park.

"Demand is fuelled by Ashford's unrivalled location and this has been enhanced by high-speed trains to London. The economy is on the up and Ashford is ready to reap the benefits."

HOPEFUL SIGNS: Even leafy Tunbridge Wells has felt the recessionary pinch, although more business people and entrpreneurs are detecting genuine signs of recovery

Relocation agency Locate in Kent, an alliance of public and private sector interests including Kent County Council, says the county's property market has suffered much less than in the rest of the UK and the agency assisted 76 companies to relocate or expand here over the past year, creating 2,891 jobs, the biggest annual figure since the agency started in 1997.

MORE PROOF: Paul Wookey

Chief executive Paul Wookey said the county benefited from a diverse economy not reliant on sectors such as finance and business services

"Further proof that the Kent economy is returning to normal can be seen in the healthy pipeline of nearly 300 UK and international investors," he said.

Commercial bodies reported a more mixed message. Santander Corporate Banking says borrowing trends are good for Kent and the South East, with three in four businesses confident about the next six months and nearly three times as many (15 per cent) seeking funds for expansion rather than survival (five per cent).

"And while it's arguable whether we are seeing any significant market recovery, it is striking that so many more want to borrow to expand rather than just to survive," said Santander regional director Gwyn Price. "The economic downturn has focused minds, and businesses have adjusted accordingly."

Tim Smith, commercial director of Bearsted-based web management company GForces, agreed: "Those businesses that have innovated, reinvested in their people and processes, and really listened to their customers have done well during the recession.

"These same businesses continue to perform strongly, regardless of whether or not there are any green shoots."

GForces more than doubled it staff to 70 and boosted turnover 50 per cent in the last year.

Pubs and restaurants – always a barometer of consumer spending and the economy – also enjoyed a marked upturn of 1.7 per cent in September, and Kent brewer Shepherd Neame has just filed a positive annual report.

FEEL THE FORCE: Tim Smith, commercial director of GForces, has boosted turnover

Chairman Miles Templeman said: "Although the general short-term economic outlook is uncertain, we have made an encouraging start to the new [financial] year with strong beer volumes and like-for-like sales growth."

Data experts at Equifax report a near 17 per cent drop in business failures across Kent and South East over the past quarter against a 13.5 per cent fall nationally.

But spokesman Neil Munroe added: "It is crucial that these early signs of recovery are not overstated.

"The worst thing that could happen now is that organisations take their eye off the ball in terms of risk management."

And the Chartered Management Institute (CMI) says 75 per cent of Kent and South East managers believe it will be at least another year before business sees an upturn.

CMI adviser Lord John Eatwell said: "Employee engagement is also suffering with most people losing colleagues, facing increasing workloads and seeing their efforts go unrewarded because of pay freezes. Firms will need to look to other ways to get morale levels up if managers are to meet the challenge of rebuilding a competitive economy."

Postal strikes to stretch loyalty

LOCAL businesses see their relationship with the Royal Mail being stretched to breaking point by possible postal strikes.

Kent and Medway's Federation of Small Businesses has figures showing 70 per cent of FSB members rely on the postal service for more than half their business post – mostly in the form of cheques, invoices and letters.

Ths same percentage said the postal workers' industrial action would cost their companies money, 40 per cent expected to lose trade and the same amount also feared losing their reputation due to disrupted customer service caused by the strikes.

As a result, half of those surveyed said they were considering leaving the Royal Mail and looking at alternatives, though a similar number say rival carriers are too expensive and a third said these did not meet their needs.

Which might explain why the FSB survey concluded with the conciliatory finding: 66 per cent of small businesses would favour paying slightly more for stamps and other items temporarily, to fund improvements in Royal Mail.

During any disruption firms are expected to turn to online banking to avoid late payment surcharges caused by cheques caught in the postal strikes.

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But software security expert Symantec urges caution, advising:

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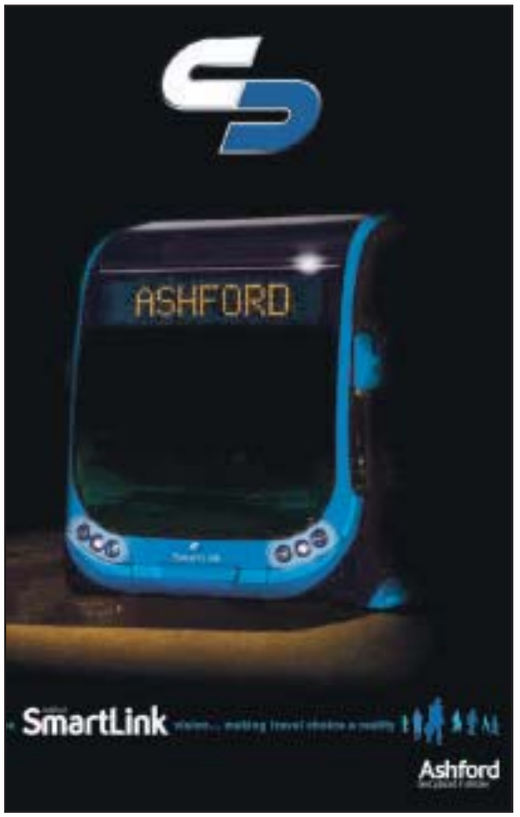
- Check credit card statements regularly for unexpected transactions.
- When paying bills, always type the address into the browser rather than following links. Criminals now 'poison' search engine results and lead the unsuspecting to fake sites.

You can avoid clicking through to potentially unscrupulous websites by using an online security product with web safety warnings.

A visionary ride into growth town's future

SmartLink plans going on display at shopping mall



FUTURE VISION: SmartLink is modelled on a tram system

PLANS for a futuristic fast public transport service for Ashford go on show next week, ***writes Andy Rogers***.

The expanding market town could have the SmartLink bus service by 2012, promising fast, reliable journeys linking the town's main residential and employment areas with the town centre, International Station, Designer Outlet, William Harvey Hospital and three proposed park and ride sites.

Using high-quality vehicles and fast-boarding technology such as smart cards for quick fare payment, SmartLink services would be modelled on a tram system and run every eight to 10 minutes via special priorities and lanes to avoid congestion.

Residents and businesspeople can see how it might work by checking out plans displayed in Ashford's County Square shopping centre on Tuesday, from 9am to 6pm.

Growth

Representatives from Ashford's Future and Kent County Council will be on hand to answer queries.

Ashford's Future's transport chief Andy Phillips said: "SmartLink will play a key part in supporting the town's growth as the population doubles over the next 20 years.

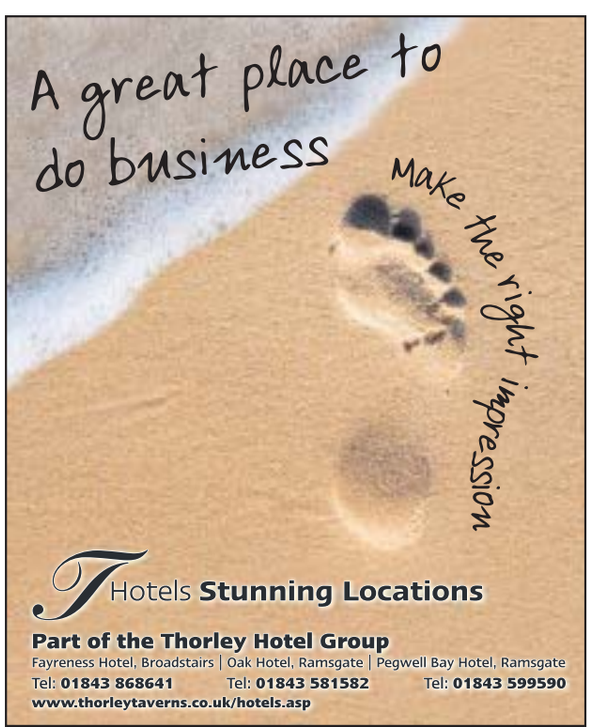
"With more people on the roads and our residential and business communities expanding, it is essential that we offer a sustainable and efficient alternative to car travel.

"SmartLink will give people a fast, modern and reliable way of getting to and from work, school, the station or the town centre, and will make a significant impact on congestion."

ALL ABOARD: SmartLink route map

The Department of Transport will be approached in December about £30 million funding for the scheme.

Ashford has been identified by the Government as one of the key growth areas in the South East and is now the fastest growing town between London and the Continent, creating 28,000 extra jobs and 31,000 new homes by 2031.



Expansion in the trendy bag

ECO-awareness is affecting shopping habits, with none more obvious than the trend towards reusable bags.

It has created a boom for Crazy Bags, a multi-million-pound business that recently moved to Eridge, Tunbridge Wells.

Established in 2000, the company outgrew its original base in Southampton and relocated to Kent, where it employs 12 people.

Proprietor Andy Steavenson said: "The temptation for many businesses is to move to larger cities, with the perception that is where you need to be if you are to grow and be successful.

"Kent and Sussex have such a lot to offer and hopefully we will be one of many companies choosing to remain in the area, working with local people, delivering our products and services nationally and internationally."

Crazy Bags is one of the UK's leading stockists and distributors of promotional, carrier and eco-bags.

Fair Trade accredited, it works with major national and international brands and retailers and uses cotton, canvas, jute, traditional paper and polythene for its creations.

MILLS & BOON: Romantic look to publisher's reusable bag

Mr Steavenson added: "It's an exciting time for our industry and next year looks set to offer some fantastic opportunities.

ERIDGE HOME: Crazy Bags' base

"The reusable bag has become embedded in the consumer psyche, with corporate and retail clients beginning to move in line with this trend, looking for innovative, fashionable and practical bags to help boost brand visibility, while lengthening the life of their marketing campaigns."

He expected even more business next year, helped by an emerging trend towards brand snobbery and perceived cachet in reusable bags.

He said: "As we continue to grow and explore, moving into wider markets we will need to add to our team to help us meet and cope with growing demand. Our new premises will enable us to do that."

CONSUMER watchdog Which? has welcomed Financial Services Authority (FSA) proposals to reform the mortgage market, but questioned why it took so long to get tough.

Which? chief executive Peter Vicary-Smith said: "We're pleased the FSA is looking to take a more robust approach to regulating the mortgage market, although we would like to see tougher measures such as a ban on mortgages over 100 per cent and the naming of lenders who mistreat customers.

"Mortgage providers are already responsible for assessing affordability, so why is the FSA only getting tough on it now? Many borrowers are suffering the consequences of irresponsible lending."

TIME is running out to book places for a free event to help businesses to trade internationally.

The Kent International Business Event is on Thursday at the University of Kent at Canterbury's Darwin College, and will field experts in international trade finance and point the way to support from international business networks.

Workshops will also look at trading in European and US markets. KCC's deputy leader Cllr Alex King said: "With the weak pound, now is a great time to take advantage of foreign markets."

The event is a partnership by KCC, UK Trade and Investment, Enterprise Europe Network, the University of Kent and the US State of Virginia. Register free online at www.kent.gov.uk/business/international-business-event.htm; contact europe.affairs@kent.gov.uk or call +44(0)1622 694046.

IT WILL probably be dubbed the new 'spy in the cab', but Trimble MRM has created an in-vehicle monitor for driver behaviour, vehicle condition, fuel and mpg efficiency and CO2 emissions.

The Driver DNA or TVG 660 device also provides the already familiar GPS data on vehicle position and activity to provide a much wider view of fleet usage and performance, from trucks to vans and cars.

Companies can then analyse performance and take action on anything from driver style to vehicle servicing.

Savings of 15 per cent on running costs and vehicle maintenance and an 18 per cent boost in driver compliance are claimed.

EXPORT credit agency ECGD has launched a scheme to assist UK exporters by boosting the availability of short-term finance.

Secure forms of payment from overseas buyers are vital for UK exporters in this economic climate and one of the best mechanisms is a confirmed letter of credit. Under this a bank in the UK guarantees payment to its exporting customer, provided documents stipulated in the letter of credit issued by the buyer's overseas bank are presented to it.

In this way, the UK exporter is able to eliminate the risk of non-payment by its buyer. By sharing with banks the risks associated with confirmed letters of credit, ECGD aims to increase the amount of short-term export finance available to UK exporters. The scheme is supported by Barclays, RBS, HSBC, Lloyds TSB and Standard Chartered.

The Minister for Trade, Investment and Small Business, Lord Davies of Abersoch, said: "This could provide real help to UK firms, particularly smaller companies exporting to emerging markets."

Light at end of tunnel after double whammy

HIGH speed train operator Eurostar is bouncing back from the catastrophic Channel Tunnel fire of September, 2008, ***writes Andy Rogers***.

The encouraging news comes on the eve of the company celebrating 15 years of operations – services to France and Belgium began on November 14, 1994.

Chief executive Richard Brown said 2009 had been a tough year so far, with overall sales and revenue still down slightly, but the damaging effect of the fire on third quarter 2008 ticket sales could be seen in a 6.8 per cent upsurge for the same period this year.

He also reported a recession-defying upturn in the leisure sector and a levelling out of decline in the important business travel market.

Since Eurostar returned to full service in February, 2009, punctuality levels have also been high, with 95 per cent of trains arriving on time.

Overall ticket sales between January and September this year totalled £504.9 million, and since the beginning of the year Eurostar has welcomed 6.9 million travellers. While this is down 0.9 per cent on 2008, the volume of passengers travelling in Q3 2009 went up to 2.6 million from 2.4 million 2008.

This breaks down into an 11 per cent increase in passengers travelling outbound from the UK and a seven per cent rise on inbound travellers from the Continent year on year.

The recovery is also attributed to the company's Little Break, Big Difference advertising campaign, plugging the £59 London to Paris or Brussels return fare for UK travellers.

Mr Brown said: "Today's figures show that despite tough times, people are increasingly realising the benefit of travelling with Eurostar. These individuals are part of what we call the Eurostar Generation; travellers who over the past decade and a half have experienced significant changes to the way they live, work and play as the network of high-speed rail services steadily grows."

Mr Brown also said that though the economic climate remains difficult there are signs the worst might be over for the business market.

He said: "In recent weeks a number of our major corporate clients have eased their business travel restrictions. Although it's early days, this may be a sign of an upturn."

Eurostar is a joint venture by SNCF (French railways), Eurostar UK (owned by London and Continental Railways) and SNCB (Belgian railways).

It operates between St Pancras International, Ebbsfleet International and Ashford International on the UK side and Paris and Disneyland Resort Paris, Lille, Calais, Avignon and the French Alps as well as the Belgian capital, Brussels.

FAST TRACK: Eurostar has ridden out the double blow of the Chunnel fire and recession

Crisis? What crisis?

ROADS watchdog the RAC Foundation has taken a look at the 1970s energy crisis and urged modern-day politicians to learn the lessons.

The symptoms then – economic downturn, dwindling public cash and politicians keen to cut spending – sound horribly familiar.

The foundation's study – The 1973-1975 Energy Crisis and its Impact on Transport – recalls how the oil shortage and consequent price hikes sparked debate about a change in travel habits. Many expected a shift towards public transport requiring a halt to "superfluous road-building".

Road-building was slashed, petrol rationing was planned and speed limits cut to conserve fuel, yet car usage was increasing again within two years and never stopped climbing.

Foundation director Prof Stephen Glaister said: "It is clear to see that the energy crisis of 1973-75 had little lasting impact on car ownership and traffic trends.

Radical policies

"Those who believe we should do nothing to enhance the road network due to the economy and climate change requirements need to learn from what has gone before.

"Radical policies to curb car use were adopted in the 1970s and it was widely believed traffic would not increase. Those predictions were wrong. The result of these policies was to reduce mobility, rather than shift people onto public transport."

"Investment in roads produces very high rates of return, and at a time when every penny counts politicians have a duty to get as much for taxpayers' money as they can. With infrastructure projects taking so long to become reality, plans need to be made and acted upon now.

"More traffic need not be bad for the environment if improved and new technologies make vehicles increasingly green.

"Today's politicians could put their heads in the sand and pretend congestion and pollution will be solved by the recession. They will not. Population growth and economic recovery mean the demand for mobility and freight movement will rise again."

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Furley Page employment team's law workshops

DIFFICULT employment issues arising from the recession have prompted a series of law workshops until the end of November.

They have been set up by Kent-based legal firm Furley Page in association with Thames Gateway Chamber of Commerce.

The firm's employment team, led by partner Andrew Masters, gets top ranking from independent legal guide Chambers UK. Mr Masters said: "The workshops are an important initiative for employers, particularly as the continuing downturn has far-reaching implications for them. They need to keep on top of recent and future changes in the law, which affect all businesses, and have a clear understanding of best HR practice to avoid unnecessary and costly disputes.

"The workshops are open to chamber members and non-members throughout Kent and suited to all firms, no matter what size the workforce. As well as practical guidance, there will be question and answer sessions."

Furley Page, which has offices in Canterbury, Chatham, Whitstable and Lloyd's of London, will hold the workshops at the Thames Gateway (Kent) Chamber of Commerce offices in Rochester and joining Mr Masters will be employment lawyers Amanda Okill and Melissa Edmond and specialist HR consultant Hugh Horsford. For more details call 01634 311411 or email Sharon Hogbin: shogbin@tgcoc.co.uk.

•Furley Page's Canterbury office has signed up to Will Aid, the scheme that allows people to make a will and donate to participating charities instead of paying their solicitor. The scheme runs throughout November.

Mustard motors into PFPR post

AUTOMOTIVE PR specialist PFPR Communications has recruited former motoring journalist and in-house press officer, Marc Mustard, pictured below.

The appointment follows new account wins by the Maidstone-based agency, including BMW Mini USA and Dutch luxury sports brand Spyker Cars.

Mustard graduated from Edinburgh's Napier University with a journalism degree in 2003, writing for the Press Association and Auto Express before joining the PR team at Czech car brand, Skoda.

He then took a working holiday Down Under, where he leapt back into journalism on Australia's popular Wheels magazine in Sydney, before more travelling.

"Marc's wide-ranging background in both journalism and PR, his excellent writing ability and automotive enthusiasm will be invaluable at PFPR," said client service director Peter Cox.

"We're busier than ever, with new clients coming on board, so he's going to need to hit the ground running."

PFPR employs 20 people at its Turkey Mill offices and clients include Dartford-based Mazda UK. Kia Motors Europe, Chrysler International, Hyundai Motors Europe. It was voted PR Consultancy of the Year at the motor industry's 2009 Headlineauto Awards.

Lunch for lupus

LUPUS, a medical condition that predominantly affects women, came under the microscope at an annual all-female charity event.

Every year, one meeting of Professionally Pink, a regular networking event for Kent businesswomen organised by Kent accountancy firm Horwath Clark Whitehill, is given over to charity.

Guests for the lunch at Portugalia Restaurant in Maidstone, were addressed by Lupus UK chair Jane Dunnage and £300 was raised to help the charity's work.

Organiser Emily Rushton (pictured), from Horwath Clark Whitehill, said: "Jane gave an interesting and informative talk about lupus, the difficulties of diagnosis, and the work the charity does raising awareness and helping people with the condition.

"It was a sobering thought that lupus, which can severely damage vital organs, is more common than leukemia and multiple sclerosis, yet is commonly misdiagnosed."

For more on Professionally Pink, contact emily.rushton@horwath.co.uk.

Which blue sky thinker needs a thought shower?

By **ANDY ROGERS**
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

JUST who is picking the low-hanging fruit?

Is brainstorming a thing of the past, or do we now just do thought showers?

And if, at the end of the day, this sounds like nonsense then you'll love a new book, Management Boll**ks – how to talk your way to the top, by Richard Havers (Format, £9.99).

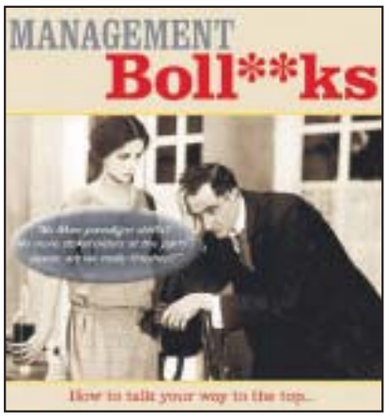
The author spent 20 years in the airline industry before deciding to pursue his passion for writing.

His books include Bill Wyman's Blues Odyssey; Rolling with the Stones; and Sinatra, an illustrated biography of Frank Sinatra.

He has also written sleeve notes for record labels and appears regularly on radio and TV.

He reckons Genghis Khan was the earliest example of an extremely competent manager, but the man who laid waste to Asia probably never wasted time on management speak.

This was more likely the 'gift' of Chester Irving Edwards' 1938 book Functions of the Executive, with winners like 'The line of communication should not be interrupted when the organisation is functioning.'



TALK THE TALK: Richard Havers' book

Initially, it was those on the cutting edge that talked the talk, but soon middle, junior and even non-managers embraced this language as a means of getting ahead.

Mr Havers says management-speak now has a life of its own, evolving year by year: "It would be wonderful to know who dreams some of it up.

Who was the first numpty that uttered the immortal phrase 'transferable skill set'? Who said 'impactfulness' and managed to keep a straight face?

"Who decided it was a good idea to have hymn sheets in the office? But whatever the answer, who needs to 'walk the walk' when you can 'talk the talk'?"

He seems pleased, though, that an old-fashioned phrase has returned – thanks to Sir Alan Sugar: 'You're fired'.

And while it might have a devastating effect on Sir Alan's hit TV show, The Apprentice, it's a lot nicer than Genghis Khan's (probable) favourite: 'You're dead!'

Clydesdale raises steaks for Heritage

MEAT importer Heritage Foods UK believes its current £24 million turnover will be boosted by 25 per cent through teaming up with Clydesdale Bank.

Heritage, based at Maidstone's Turkey Mill, now expects to be able to pay overseas suppliers on better terms, while improving its own cashflow.

Heritage was started in 2003 and specialises in importing meats for the wholesale butchers trade and major food service groups, to supply to pubs, restaurants and hotels nationwide such as Beefeater, Greene King and Hilton Hotels.

Invoice financing allows Heritage to obtain up to 75 per cent of the value of its invoices immediately, with the remainder payable when payment is received.

Heritage MD John Smith who, along with fellow director Duncan Costain-Perry has been in the industry more than 20 years, said: "All the meat we import from Australia, New Zealand and South America has to be paid for upfront, but we don't get paid by our customers here until after they take delivery.

"We need some way of bridging that gap and invoice financing enables us to do that.

"Clydesdale Bank supplies a letter of credit and then as soon as we raise the invoice to the customer we can use the funds released through invoice financing to pay the supplier."

But there were other attractions in switching to Clydesdale: "We were dissatisfied with our previous bank and felt strongly that we would get a more personal service with Clydesdale because they are more like an old-fashioned bank."

SHAKE ON IT: From left – Martin White of Clydesdale, Heritage director Duncan Costain-Perry, MD John Smith, director Clive Holden and Paul Saunders of Clydesdale FSC

Martin White, business partner at Clydesdale Bank Financial Solutions Centre, also in Maidstone, said its client had already been a success story, but added: "The team at Heritage is keen to push on to the next level and our international products will help them to do that. These are people who know their industry inside out and we are always looking to support businesses with strong management teams."

Heritage employs 12 people, with one based in Spain. Mr Smith said: "We now have an even stronger foothold in the market and our financial benefits are better. It allows us to push on as a business and I don't see why we shouldn't be turning over £30m within a year to 18 months."

Airline's life-saving sideline taking off

KENT-based World Executive Airways (WEA) has built a life-saving niche business flying human organs across the UK for transplants, ***writes Andy Rogers***.

WEA, which operates out of Lydd Airport, is better known for executive charter and air taxi services to the corporate and leisure sectors, but is now a vital link for NHS organ transplant teams.

With the need to cover from the far north of Scotland down to the Channel Islands, reliability and fast reaction times are essential for transportation of donor hearts, kidneys, lungs, livers and other organs.

From the moment the organ is removed from a donor and packed in a special container, it is a race against time to keep it 'viable' on its way to the hospital where the transplant will take place.

Air travel is proving the best solution and WEA air crew are on standby 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

WEA MD Jonathan Gordon said: "It's not uncommon for one of our aircraft to be standing in the middle of the night at a British airport, with its engines running, waiting for an ambulance travelling under a blue light to deliver the container.

"Within seconds the container is secured on board, the door closed and the aircraft taxiing for take-off. The control tower gives priority status for a rapid departure and the aircraft sets off on a flight path cleared in advance as a priority by air traffic control.

RACE AGAINST TIME: WEA MD Jonathan Gordon, left, is proud of his airline's niche role

"Providing this service places huge demands on our pilots and presents us with considerable logistical and operational challenges, but we take great pride in playing our part in making our human organ transplant service one of the best in the world."

The national transplant database tracks demand for organ transplants in the UK, but this always outstrips supply. Allocation is assessed according to the patient's need and the closest possible match between donor and recipient. The blood group, age and size of donor and recipient are all taken into account.

"Our duty manager will receive an initial call at any time of the day or night to ask if we could provide an aircraft and crew to pick up from point A and deliver to point B," said Mr Gordon. "Once we confirm our availability, we are on standby. We will remain at the ready while the authorities continue their process of matching donor and recipient.

"Sometimes this can take hours and doesn't always work out. In fact, only about two out of 10 calls we receive lead to us getting involved in transporting a human organ.

"When we are involved, we will manage every aspect of the air journey, including logging a flight plan with air traffic controllers and liaising with airport authorities.

"The entire operation takes between six and 12 hours and can sometimes involve carrying a medical crew as well as the donor organ."

WEA is part of the Atlantic Bridge Aviation Group formed in 1988. It holds a minority shareholding in Lydd Airport via another subsidiary, South East Airports Ltd.

MORTGAGE RATES

RT: Rate type **R%:** Rate percentage **L:** Loan **U:** Until **OD:** Other details

FIXED

WOOLWICH
RT: FIXED **R%:** 3.99% **L:** 70% **U:** 31/01/2012 **OD:** £1,329

MORTGAGE BOX ITL
RT: FIXED **R%:** 4.89% **L:** 75% **U:** 31/03/2011 **OD:** £1,184

MARSDEN
RT: FIXED **R%:** 5.19% **L:** 70% **U:** 30/11/2011 **OD:** £1,123

ABBEY
RT: FIXED **R%:** 3.99% **L:** 70% **U:** 02/01/2012 **OD:** £1,030

OTHER

ABBEY
RT: TRACKER **R%:** 2.79% **L:** 70% **U:** 3 YEARS **OD:** £1,030

DARLINGTON
RT: DISCOUNTED VARIABLE **R%:** 3.15% **L:** 70% **U:** 30/11/2011 **OD:** £1,320

NORTHERN ROCK
RT: TRACKER **R%:** 2.75% **L:** 70% **U:** 01/11/2011 **OD:** £1,030

ALLIANCE & LEICESTER
RT: TRACKER **R%:** 2.79% **L:** 70% **U:** 3 YEARS **OD:** £1,305

• THESE RATES CANNOT BE GUARANTEED AND ARE CORRECT AT THE TIME OF GOING TO PRESS

FAMILY INCOME BENEFIT FOR £1,500 PER MONTH TO AGE 60

* ALL PREMIUMS ARE GUARANTEED & ASSUME THAT THE COVER PROVIDED REMAINS LEVEL THROUGHOUT TERM OF CONTRACT & ARE BASED ON SINGLE LIFE & NON-SMOKER RATES AND ASSUME ACCEPTANCE AFTER UNDERWRITING AT ORDINARY RATES

MALE AGED 30		FEMALE AGED 30	
SCOT PROVIDENT	£14.39	SCOT PROVIDENT	£11.40
LV=	£15.58	LEGAL & GENERAL	£11.85
LEGAL & GENERAL	£15.60	LV=	£12.75
AEGON SCOT EQ	£16.77	AEGON SCOT EQ	£13.01
BRIGHT GREY	£18.19	BRIGHT GREY	£13.51
MALE AGED 40		**FEMALE AGED 40**	
AEGON SCOT EQ	£17.35	LEGAL & GENERAL	£13.50
LV=	£17.47	SCOT PROVIDENT	£13.68
SCOT PROVIDENT	£17.62	LV=	£14.19
LEGAL & GENERAL	£17.85	BUPA	£14.83
BUPA	£18.72	AEGON SCOT EQ	£15.16

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Watchdog: Sale of crossing would be a 'Prescott punch'

GOVERNMENT plans to sell the Dartford Tunnel and Queen Elizabeth II bridge have been called a "punch in the face for anti-toll campaigners" by the Association of British drivers (ABD).

The M25 toll crossing over the Thames has been identified as one of the assets that might be liquidated to narrow the UK gaping budget deficit, but ABD spokesman Nigel Humphries said: "The bridge and tunnel are a critical part of the UK's national road infrastructure. It's completely unacceptable that they should be sold, possibly to foreign investors.

"We have no doubt that any sale will result in large increases in tolls as the purchaser tries to recoup their investment."

Kent's ABD co-ordinator Terry Hudson said: "The Government is well aware that there is a campaign locally to have tolls on the crossing scrapped. This is supported by local councils, including Dartford and Gravesham, and by local businesses which are already struggling with the tolls in this time of recession.

"A recent power cut also proved removal of the tolls greatly reduces congestion. Only last week transport minister Sadiq Khan suggested tolls might be scrapped one way to reduce congestion. Gordon Brown must have been taking tips from John Prescott – this announcement is a punch in the face for campaigners."

ABD chairman Brian Gregory said: "The amount the sale might bring highlights what a moneyspinner the Dartford Crossing is for the Government, despite the promise to drop the tolls once the bridge had been paid for. Not only does this Government break its promises, it now aims to profit from doing so."

Warehouse delivers big eco savings for Morrisons

COLOSSUS: Morrisons' G Park warehouse

BRITAIN'S fourth biggest supermarket chain, Morrisons, has moved into a new warehouse and distribution complex at G Park, Sittingbourne.

The 920,000 sq ft colossus was developed by warehousing specialist Gazeley and Standard Life Investments with an accent on sustainability; more than 12,000 varieties of insects and wildlife are claimed to have been moved from the site to ensure minimum environmental disruption.

The building should also deliver carbon savings through solar heating, a grey-water system, vertical wind turbines and more efficient lighting. Gazeley completed the building in 42 weeks and Morrisons aims to use the site to support its South East expansion.

Gazeley is a global specialist in sustainable logistics space and its other major customers include Wal-Mart, BT, John Lewis, Procter & Gamble, Toyota, VW and DHL. Partner on this project, Standard Life Investments, is one of the largest property investors in Europe.

Timeline

Kent on Sunday sport takes a look back at the county's sporting action of yesteryear

1909

100 YEARS AGO: A SUPERB fight-back by Tunbridge Wells Rangers booked their place in the next round of the FA Cup, after they overcame a 2-0 deficit against Worthing.

The Rangers were shocked early on, as they found themselves two goals down inside 15 minutes.

The reporter described both goals as "lucky" although he was being generous by modern standards. The first slipped through the goalkeeper's (Lambe's) fingers and the second was chested into his own net by Livesey.

These self-inflicted wounds were overcome by this "team of triers", but the reporter lamented a poor attendance, with only £6 taken at the gate.

In the Weald of Kent League, Bates scored the only goal of the game as Tenterden beat Cranbrook 1-0.

1959

50 YEARS AGO: FOLKESTONE and Ashford became the latest sides to unveil a set of floodlights, with more than 4,000 supporters at Essella Park to see Chelsea beat Ashford 7-2, while Lancashire giants Burnley not only provided the opposition at Folkestone, but also donated £100 to the Cheriton Road side.

The karma was altogether poorer at Margate. While they were drawing 2-2 away to Rugby, a thief was rifling through the dressing rooms, though most of the players' cash was saved as they'd left it with 12th man Alan Batsford.

The thief also took a single £1 note from Ray Chatham – had he looked in the other part of his wallet he would have escaped with £25 more.

Dartford were so concerned about poor attendances at Watling Street that they decided to switch their Southern League Cup tie with Ramsgate to Stonebridge Road and play under lights.

Their previous games with Gloucester and Cheltenham attracted just 400 and 150 fans respectively.

COACHING JOB: Former Kent cricketer Bob Woolmer moved to South Africa

1984

25 YEARS AGO: KENT cross country champion Alan Guilder travelled down from Loughborough, where he was a student, to represent Elliotts AC in the first cross country event of the Kent League season, only to realise he'd gone to the wrong venue.

The athlete went to Tenterden, only to realise, with 35 minutes to go to the start, that the race was taking place in Mote Park, just minutes from his family home in Bearsted.

Guilder jumped in a car and despite getting stuck behind a bus and a lorry on Sutton Valence Hill, made it to the start line with two minutes to spare. He managed a respectable fourth place in 26.01, and by finishing allowed Elliotts to register points in the team section.

Former Kent cricketer Bob Woolmer announced he was emigrating to South Africa to take up a full-time coaching appointment.

Gymnasts coming on in leaps and bounds

With Britain playing host to the World Gymnastics Championships last week, sports reporter STEVE TERVET has been investigating its effect in the county

WHILE Beth Tweddle was leading Great Britain's medal charge at last week's World Gymnastics Championships, one of Kent's finest watched from the O2 stands, inspired by the world-class talent before him and determined to join them at the 2012 London Olympics.

Courtney Tulloch, 14, is the current UK Schools all-round champion and has already represented Great Britain's junior team in South Africa, Hungary and Austria. Now he is aiming for international success at senior level, and Fef Griffin, director at Bearsted's Pegasus Gymnastics Club – Tulloch's training base – believes his experience at the O2 can only stand him in good stead.

She told Kent on Sunday: "We made two club trips up there and some people went individually – Courtney was there pretty much all week. A real advantage of watching the World Championships is you get to see the confidence and the poise of the gymnasts, and what it's like to compete in a big event.

"Courtney's never had to use a podium [a three-foot high platform which the apparatus is set on so the spectators can see the action more clearly] and he will have to use them in the bigger competitions, so it was good for him to see them in use close-up.

"It's difficult to say how good Courtney can be, because he's just coming into teenage years. Within his age group he's one of the best in the country and he's got a coach (Romanian, Lonut Trandaburu) who can take him to the very top.

"In 2012 he will just be 17, which is young for an Olympic male gymnast, but he's in with a chance."

Griffin believes hosting the World Championships in London was a masterstroke by Britain – a country not renowned for its forward-thinking when it comes to gymnastics – and said the trips to the O2 had given Pegasus gymnasts a real sense of belief and encouragement that they, too, can be among the next generation of British medal hopefuls.

"Britain has come on so far in the last 15 years," she said. "From being ranked 22 in the world to now being in the top-10 is such a leap, and it's no longer a case of 'if we get a medal' but 'how many medals.'

"People at Pegasus are now thinking it's a real possibility for them to qualify and be challenging for medals."

HIGH EXPECTATIONS: Courtney Tulloch (left) and James Hall aim to put Kent gymnastics on the map Pictures: HELEN COOPER ACER PHOTO ART

Tulloch, whose family moved from Basildon to Maidstone to be nearer the facilities at Pegasus, spends 26 hours a week training and is even home-schooled to accommodate his gymnastic commitments.

He is joined in the national squad by fellow all-rounder James Hall. The two share not only a birthday, but the same passion and desire for success on the big stage and with the experience of watching their heroes at close quarters, the pair are now well-equipped to join them and put Kent on the gymnastics map.

Pictures: ADY KERRY

TAKING STEPS: Lisa Dobriskey is working to prevent injuries

Dobriskey damage limitation

KENT athlete Lisa Dobriskey will spend the winter focusing on preventing injuries after a series of breakdowns threatened to end her season prematurely.

The 25-year-old 1500-metre runner has had a rollercoaster of a season, experiencing the low of multiple injuries and the high of winning a silver medal at the World Championships in Berlin in August.

Although achieving her goal of winning a World Championship medal, one area the Ashford athlete is looking to improve on is her resilience to injuries. After coming so close to missing the World Championships due to a thigh injury, it's something she is aware needs attention.

She told Kent on Sunday: "Obviously I am happy with some aspects of the season, like winning silver at the World Championships and running under four minutes, but it has not been my best season.

"The injuries played a big part of my year and stopped me running for quite a long spell. This is something I have got to improve and learn from.

"I am a bit prone to injuries, like stress fractures, and this has prompted me to change the way I train to prevent them. I think next year I will be doing less running and more work on treadmills, which will help."

Dobriskey is already working on her fitness for next season and has been boosted by the news coach George Gandy is to become National Event Coach for Endurance.

Gandy has played a key role in her rise to prominence and his new national role should help the Commonwealth champion.

Dobriskey said: "I'm really pleased for George. He has done a lot for the sport and hasn't had the recognition he deserves. I will get to spend more training sessions with him, which can only help me push harder and get even better."

Dobriskey heads to Kenya next month to begin altitude training.

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'Next season will be a family affair'

After helping Kent to promotion, marriage to Geraint Jones' sister-in-law caps a fine year for off-spinner

I HAVE just started a new chapter to my life, and I am not talking about cricket. I am now married to Beth, and we recently returned from our honeymoon in Cyprus. It is a happy time for us both, and it has set the seal for me on what has been a wonderful year so far.

In fact, before we left for Cyprus, I was told by Paul Farbrace – who of course has recently taken over from Graham Ford as Kent's head coach – that the England management want me to keep myself fit during the first half of this winter, I assume in case anything happens injury-wise to Graeme Swann in South Africa.

Taking 69 first-class wickets last summer meant that I achieved what I set out to do back in April, following a lot of hard work during the winter months to kick my career on again after a mediocre season in 2008. And to know that my efforts have been recognised is very rewarding.

England have also selected Adil Rashid for the South Africa tour, but he is a very different type of spin bowler to Swann, who is a cricketer very much in the same mould as myself in that he bowls an attacking brand of off-spin, can bat pretty well down the order and is also effective in one-day cricket.

I am not for a moment hoping that Swanny goes down with anything, because he is a great bloke who has performed excellently for England since he broke into the Test side last winter.

He is a few years older than me, and therefore with a bit more experience in first-class cricket, and I have watched his deserved success with great interest because it shows that a traditional off-spinner can flourish at the top level, contrary to what some were saying not that long ago.

Swann's performances with the ball, both abroad and at home this past summer in the Ashes, have also given me a bit of extra self-belief in what I am doing. My own form has been very pleasing, and a vindication of what I worked on in preparation for last summer, but it is still good to see someone who bowls in a similar style to myself doing so well.

I am not too disappointed at not being named in the England performance squad for this winter, as that is predominantly for younger players. There is an England Lions tour in the New Year, probably to Dubai to take on Pakistan A, and I understand the selectors will be choosing some more experienced players to bolster that squad – alongside some of the younger players announced in the performance squad.

So, for the foreseeable future, I will just be concentrating on keeping myself fit, in case of any emergencies, and also on working on some of the specific things which made such a difference to me during the course of last season. I hope I then get selected for the England Lions trip, when the squad for that is chosen in December.

In the meantime, I was also delighted to see the news confirming that Rob Key will be continuing to captain Kent in 2010, and with a new longer-term contract. From my perspective, it is also great to see a Kent lad like him committing to the county and remaining loyal to the club he has grown up with. There's not enough of that these days, in my view.

By the way, you may not know that Geraint Jones is now my brother-in-law, because he is married to Beth's older sister. So, next season, any 'c Jones b Tredwell' or 'st Jones b Tredwell' will be family affairs! I look forward to them.

Geraint was not the only Kent cricketer present at our marriage. My best man was Rob Ferley, and most of the rest of the lads either came along to the wedding ceremony or to the evening reception – or, in many cases, both. It was a memorable day.

• James Tredwell, the Kent off-spinning all-rounder, is one of Kent on Sunday's regular sports columnists.

PROMOTION: James Tredwell (right) with team-mate Darren Stevens at the presentation of the County Championship Division Two title Picture: JAMES BOARDMAN

HE AIN'T HEAVY: Geraint Jones is now James Tredwell's brother-in-law as well as team-mate Picture: ADY KERRY

KENT STAGE: The Tour de France field makes its way through Tonbridge in 2007

A tour de force on massive day for county sport

TWO summers ago Kent ground to a halt for the day as it hosted one of the biggest annual sporting events in the world.

An estimated two million people lined the county's roads to watch the Tour de France, making a mockery of fears in the build-up it would be poorly supported and a colossal waste of money.

Beginning in central London, the race weaved its way to a grandstand finish in Canterbury. As well as a huge event, the stage itself was packed with sporting drama, with David Millar's breakaway and Robbie McEwen's stunning comeback to take victory in a bunch sprint on Rheims Way.

Tour de Kent is an account of the day the sun shone – quite literally as it turned out – on Kent. At the heart of it was sports journalist Fred Atkins, a genuine cycling fan covering the story of a lifetime on his doorstep.

As well as looking at the preparations made for the stage, the day itself is told from within one of the race cars and the aftermath, Tour de Kent, has a wider brief.

It also gives readers a history of the Tour, its on-off relationship with the UK and does not shy away from the spectre of drugs in the sport.

Intertwined with the story are almost 200 photographs taken along the route, giving sports fans and anyone who lined the county's roads that balmy July day a lasting memento.

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TOUR STORY: Fred Atkins' recollection of events surrounding the 2007 Tour de France

Golfer's drive for sponsor to aid tour bid

GOLFER Ricki Neil-Jones is facing a race against time to raise the sponsorship he needs to compete in the all-important tour qualifying schools.

The 26-year-old golfer from Gravesend enjoyed success as an amateur both in the UK and during a college scholarship in the United States. He turned professional last year, but like many young golfers, immediately ran into problems.

"It's been really tough to get sponsors, especially with the recession," he said. "Since turning pro I don't feel like I've given myself a chance – I've been working three weeks to play one event, which isn't ideal."

Neil-Jones hopes to get on to either the Challenge Tour or Asian Tour for next season, which he estimates would cost around £20,000.

Qualifying events begin in a matter of weeks, which does not give the recently unemployed golfer much time to find a backer.

He said: "The most difficult thing is getting on to a tour. I know what I'm capable of and I can't see any reason why I couldn't succeed. I think I'll find something, I just hope it doesn't happen too late."

• If you are interested in sponsoring Ricki Neil-Jones, email rneiljones@hotmail.com.

BACKING: Ricki Neil-Jones needs a sponsor

Picture: ADY KERRY

WAITING GAME: South African Justin Kemp

Kent undecided on giving Kemp a new contract

SOUTH African all-rounder Justin Kemp still awaits a decision about his future at Kent, but has not ended his Kolpak agreement, according to chairman of cricket, Graham Johnson.

There had been speculation this week that the 32-year-old has ended his Kolpak status in an attempt to make himself available for South Africa, but that has since been rubbished by Kent.

Kemp has returned to South Africa to play for state side Cape Cobras this winter as he waits to see if Kent offer him a new deal after his two-year contract expired at the end of this season.

Johnson denied that Kemp tore up his agreement, but did say the county are yet to decide whether he will return as a Kolpak player or as their overseas option for either the whole season, or just in the new Twenty20 Cup.

"As far as I am aware that is not the case," he said. "Justin could play as a Kolpak or an overseas player next season because of his international career, but that decision is yet to be made."

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Buckmore delight as old boy Button takes world championship

Picture: IMAGES INTERNATIONAL LTD

RACING STRIPES: Young Button (above, right) learning the ropes at Buckmore

By TOM HOWARD

FORMULA One fans flocked to Kent's Bluewater Shopping Centre this week to witness the homecoming of newly-crowned world champion Jenson Button.

Almost 2,000 supporters and the world's media turned out at the shopping centre in Greenhithe on Tuesday, as Button made his first appearance in Britain after claiming the world driver's title in Brazil last Sunday.

The new champion took part in Virgin Media's Speedweek event and spent time answering fans' questions and signing autographs.

A delighted Button said: "I want to continue achieving in this sport and I am not one of these drivers who is looking for a big money move to another team, it's not what I am about. I want to go and win races again – I want to be with Brawn GP.

"Formula One becomes your life if you want to win. I am hoping kids racing all around the UK will look up to drivers in F1. I know I've made mistakes, but I have put them right."

This was the latest in a long line of visits to the county for the 29-year-old after he spent his early racing career at Chatham's Buckmore Park kart circuit.

Button, who began karting at the age of eight, won two British Championships at the Kent circuit and learnt a lot of his race craft there before moving up to car racing in 1998.

Buckmore Park owner Bill Sisley said: "We are delighted to salute Jenson, who just a few short years ago was pounding around our track alongside our other old boy Lewis Hamilton.

"I first saw Jenson as an eight-year-old and he was team-mate to my son for five years.

"Jenson and Lewis' achievements just go to show karting is the best way for youngsters to begin their motorsport careers."

With the circuit helping to produce two world champions in consecutive years, Sisley believes Buckmore Park will provide more champions in the future.

He said: "I am sure out of the thousands of drivers we have at the circuit, one or two will go on to become the next British Formula One world champion."

Jenson's got a long way to go yet says Surtees

FORMER Formula One world champion John Surtees believes Great Britain is enjoying a golden era in motorsport following Jenson Button's world title win.

The 1964 world champion (pictured below), who lives in Edenbridge, near Sevenoaks, admitted he was delighted to see Button lift the title in Brazil, but believes he has work to do to become one of the sport's best drivers.

Surtees, the only man to win the world championship on both two and four wheels, has played a crucial part in Button's rise to success. He helped arrange a test drive with the Williams F1 team for a 20-year-old Button in 1999, which went some way in achieving his first F1 drive with the team in 2000.

Surtees, 75, said: "It was great to see Jenson win the title as I have known him since he was very young. Things have changed a lot since I won it, but I still remember the feeling and I am sure Jenson will be re-living the moment."

Button has received his fair share of criticism in the past for the way he has acted in Formula One.

Surtees believes the Brawn GP driver has not helped himself during his career, and says if he wishes to become the first Brit in history to win back-to-back titles, his sole focus must be on racing.

He said: "Jenson has had a lot of criticism in his career, but I feel it is of his own doing. If I was him I would to go to Abu Dhabi and give it 101 per cent to win the final race and stamp his authority on the championship. I think to win back-to-back titles, he has got to focus on the racing."

Will Superleague championship come to Brands?

BRANDS Hatch has been lined up to host a round of the Superleague Formula Championship next season to replace the outgoing A1 GP.

The series, which combines football with motor racing, looks to be heading to the Grand Prix circuit after being named on the provisional calendar.

The series would head to Kent on August 1 as part of a new expanded 12-race championship.

The single-seater championship, which uses identical V12 powered cars, began three years ago and is increasing in popularity.

Former Formula One drivers Sebastien Bourdais, Antonio Pizzonia and Giorgio Pantano have all switched to the championship for this season. The series is similar to A1 GP, but instead of cars racing as nations, they race as football clubs.

COMING SOON?: Tunbridge Wells racer Jonathan Kennard hopes Brands Hatch will host the series

The event could fill the void left by the A1 GP series, which was left off the circuit's list for 2010, although the Superleague Formula is not set in stone and an official calendar is to be released in the near future.

One driver who will be looking forward to next season is Tunbridge Wells' racer Jonathan Kennard.

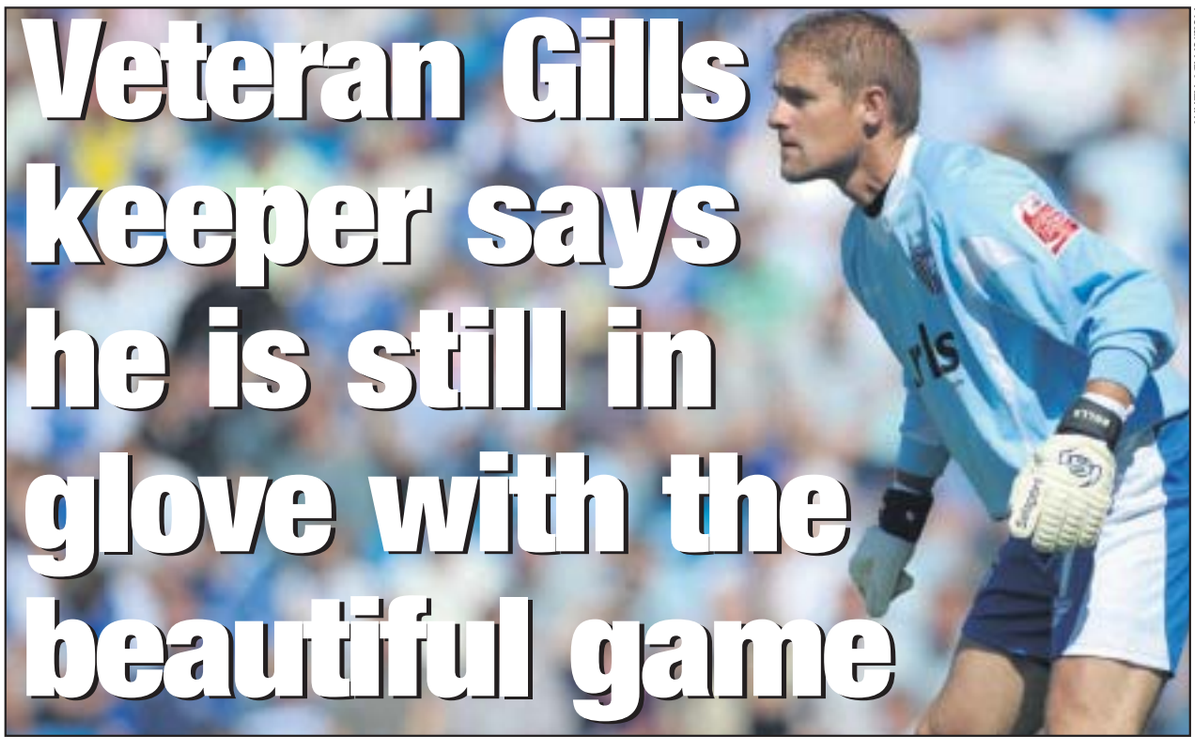
The 24-year-old has been racing in the series for AS Roma and Flamengo this year and believes the concept is destined to attract even more attention in the future.

He said: "It is a great series to be a part of and it seems to be growing. It would be awesome to come back to Brands, I have not raced there since 2007, and to come back in these cars would be an excellent challenge."

Royce still rolling along nicely after 18 years between the posts

By DAVID PRITCHARD

Veteran Gills keeper says he is still in glove with the beautiful game



Picture: ADY KERRY

CENTENARIAN: Simon Royce said there was plenty of life in the old dog yet as he looked to take part in his 100th Gills game yesterday

DESPITE beginning his professional career before some of his Gillingham team-mates were born, Simon Royce insists he has no plans to hang up his gloves and slip into retirement.

The veteran goalkeeper turned 38 last month but is still one of the first names on manager Mark Stimson's team sheet every week.

While some players his age are content just to still be on the payroll, playing remains everything to Royce. Speaking ahead of his 100th start for Gillingham against former club Charlton yesterday, he told Kent on Sunday his love of competing was undimmed.

"I still get the same buzz as I ever have," he said. "I try to do the same pre-match routines and walking out to play in front of thousands of people and making saves still gives me the same tingles down the back of my neck.

Contract

"When you lose that it's time to stop, but at the moment I can't see it happening any time soon – I'd sign a new contract straight away, I feel like I could still do it."

Royce is now into his 18th season as a professional, joining Southend two months before Gillingham midfielder Jack Payne was born.

Although goalkeepers are traditionally able to play longer due to the relatively lower physical demands compared to outfield players, such longevity is a notable achievement in a sport which gets more intense by the year.

Royce has no special formula to playing for so long, but does have one piece of advice for younger players.

He said: "I don't think there's any great secret. I'm lucky I'm naturally slim so I'm not someone who has to work really hard to keep the extra pounds off. I'm very proud I've been able to carry on for so many years.

"You just have to work hard and try not to have many rows with people. I have always thought if you fall out with a manager you should never go and talk to the newspapers, even if you're leaving a club, because you never know when you might need their help. Football's a small world."

Gills boss Mark Stimson is not someone who selects on past form and paid tribute to his number one's attitude.

He said: "Simon's a true professional when he comes in. He doesn't come in every day because of his age, but he doesn't need to train every day. When he's in he trains hard and he enjoys it – those are the two most important ingredients you need."

CAPTAIN COURAGEOUS: Catherine Spencer led England to Six Nations glory last season

England call on county duo

TWO Kent women have been called up to the England Women's Rugby Union side for the autumn internationals and Six Nations Championship.

Former Folkestone player Catherine Spencer has retained the England captaincy and has been joined in the squad by Saracens' Rachel Burford, from Medway.

Spencer, 30, and Burford, 23, are part of a squad of 44 players who will take part in a three Test series against reigning world champions New Zealand next month.

The series will be followed by England's defence of the Six Nations Championship, which begins in February.

This season will be an important year for Spencer's side, who have won four consecutive Six Nations titles, as England are due to host the World Cup in August.

Fleet owners in struggle to resolve financial crisis

EBBSFLEET United could be sold within two months unless a solution is found to the club's current financial plight, with owners MyFootballClub currently in talks with club bosses.

Less than a third of the 30,000 MyFC members paid their renewal fee for the current season and the resultant shortfall has left Fleet hamstrung not only on the pitch – with manager Liam Daish releasing the bulk of his squad in pre-season – but off it, with vice-chairman Roly Edwards confirming the option to put the club up for sale has already been discussed.

He told Kent on Sunday: "There are two options – the money is raised or the club will be sold. Our accountant informs us Christmas is the deadline and we are well aware that is not a long time. Selling the club is the last resort, but it is a very real possibility."

However, despite a forecasted loss of £130,000 by the end of 2009-10, Edwards was quick to quash rumours the club would not survive beyond the end of the season.

He said: "No way – that was never on the cards. The worst-case scenario is the club gets funded to a lower level. There have been stories saying the club won't be around at the end of the season and that's an absolute exaggeration. Ebbsfleet United will still be here in 20 years' time."

Average crowds at Stonebridge Road have dipped to less than 1,200 and Fleet chairman Duncan Holt admits this has contributed to the club's money troubles.

He said: "With our current league position the way it is, we have lost revenue coming through the gate. We need money coming in through commercial revenue and the membership structure, and both are also down.

"We must find the extra amount between now and the end of the season so there is time to work on it. We are no worse off than any other club."

DEADLINE: Clouds hang over Stonebridge Road as Ebbsfleet's money troubles fail to go away

Picture: IMAGES INTERNATIONAL LTD

NUMBER ONE: Jenson Button salutes the fans at Bluewater

Crowds flock to Bluewater to catch glimpse of new F1 champ Jenson

JENSON Button returned to Kent this week to celebrate becoming Britain's 10th Formula One world champion.

The 29-year-old from Somerset flew straight from Brazil – where he won the world title in the penultimate round – to Bluewater Shopping Centre, Greenhithe, to appear before a large gathering of media and Formula One fans.

Almost 2,000 fans turned out at the shopping centre where Button took part in Virgin Media's Speedweek event. The newly-crowned F1 champion got back behind the wheel, but instead of driving his Brawn GP Formula One car, Button, who learned to race at Kent's Buckmore Park, drove a Mercedes saloon around a mapped out course to the delight of the crowd.

In a news conference Button revealed he hopes to stay with team Brawn GP for next season.

He said: "It is surreal to be back in England. I got off the plane and came straight to Bluewater. It is great to be back and I am very happy. The weekend has been pretty special for me and everyone involved in my career, this is what everyone in motor racing wants to achieve.

"I want to be with Brawn next year but we have not discussed it yet. Now the title has been secured, talks will begin."

SEE INSIDE FOR MORE

COUNTY REFUSE TO GO THE WHOLE HOG

New coach says fast bowler lacks variety the team needs

By GLENN PEARSON

KENT pulled out of the race to sign former England bowler Matthew Hoggard because the county felt he wouldn't add enough variety to their pace attack.

Kent on Sunday exclusively revealed last week that the county were interested in signing Hoggard after he was released at the end of the season, following 15 years with Yorkshire.

New head coach Paul Farbrace spoke to the 32-year-old paceman, before Leicestershire offered him a three-year deal at the beginning of the week, but despite a positive discussion, Kent pulled out of the running for his signature.

The former England and Yorkshire seamer would have been at the top end of Kent's wage scale and it's also unlikely they would have offered him a deal beyond two years – which are all factors that Farbrace and the cricket committee have been weighing up.

Farbrace said: "We didn't continue with that because of other options that are slightly better with what we have got to work with.

"The key thing is making sure we have enough variety in our attack. We had to look at the whole package, which includes how much we would have to pay.

"There's no doubt he is a quality bowler with more than 600 first-class wickets, but for us we are looking to put a bit more variety in the bowling department.

"We have pretty much got someone who can swing the ball up front with the likes of Amjad Khan, Robbie Joseph and Simon Cook."

Kent's chairman of cricket, Graham Johnson, backed Farbrace in wanting to speak to Hoggard, but hinted money might have been a factor as they won't pursue the signing "with what's on offer at the moment".

He said: "The cricket committee met last week and Matthew Hoggard was discussed, along with many others. He does not meet the criteria of what we are looking for. We have already spoken to him – and are we putting an offer on the table? No, not at the moment."

While it appears Hoggard is likely to be plying his trade elsewhere, Farbrace, skipper Rob Key and coach Simon Willis have been closing in on other potential targets ahead of next summer.

The club have made no secret of wanting to bolster their bowling attack, with Farbrace telling this newspaper before his appointment as head coach, that quick bowlers would be targeted, whereas Key has hinted he would like a world-class spinner in the attack next summer.

As a result, Kent's new head coach wouldn't be drawn on where the club intends to strengthen, but did say they were making some progress in their search for an overseas star.

"Bowling is an area we are focusing our attention on and as we haven't got anyone nailed down yet, I wouldn't like to say what type of bowler we are after," he said.

"As for an overseas, we are working on that and are making some progress, but it's difficult with the IPL and the Twenty20 World Cup following after that. We want to make sure that if we get someone in they can play at the start of the season."

Sport

KENT TARGET HOGGY DEAL

County express interest in ex-England bowler

EXCLUSIVE

Gills loaners out to prove a po

EXCLUSIVE: We reveal Hoggard chase is on

Picture: ADY KERRY

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43

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